

Yearbook Staff Told At Crichton

The yearbook staff was chosen at Crichton High School Wednesday and the group has chosen the name "The Last Cat Tracks" The yearbook has been dedicated to the parents

and in honor of Roger McDaniel, who was killed in Vietnam in August. In front are (left to right), Janice Omechinski and Kermit Crist. Roger McGurt, and Freddy Wade are assistants on the staff.

Oct. 9, 1967

*This school will become
a part of the
High School come Sept. 1968*

May 26, 1970

BECKLEY POST-1

New Vacation Spot Opens For Greenbrier Tourists

By MRS. ETHEL McCRAW
WILLIAMSBURG (RNS) — A

dream has become a reality for Mrs. James W. Hallman, formerly Chloe Hume, of Williamsburg as she has turned the family home into a farm vacation spot known as Mountain View Farm. It is located adjacent to the school house in Williamsburg.

Mrs. Hallman's home, built at the turn of the century, will offer country food, private baths, swimming pool, horse-back riding, trails and limousine service. By adding a new wing to the home she now has rooms with semi-private baths and private baths and can

Also in the process of being built at the present time and which will be open by early June will be a recreation room with a snack bar.

Mrs. Hallman's plans for the future include buffet dinners for those desiring by making reservations and gift shops to include West Virginia glass, antiques, art, pottery and other items of interest made by those in the surrounding areas. She also plans to have " flea markets" on the weekends.

One may enter Williamsburg either by U.S. 219 or U.S. 60. During open house, about 400 persons visited the farm and Sunday, Mrs. Hallman entertained about 20 persons at a press luncheon.

For reservations or further information, call or write Mrs. James W. Hallman, P.O. Drawer J, Williamsburg, W. Va., 24691 or telephone 645-3555.

will be working as her assistant Air Force in Korea and who

be ordered for the use of the guests of the new wing as well as the cottage guests.

Greenbrier Baptist History Gets Long

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

Annually the clerk of the Greenbrier Baptist Association sends a copy of the minutes of annual sessions of that venerable group of churches to my library. At hand is a copy of the 1969 meeting.

This was the 169th annual session of Greenbrier Baptist Association, one of the oldest of such organizations in the nation. It was organized in 1801 and was the first association of Baptist churches west of the Allegheny Mountains.



While West Virginia was still a part of Virginia, Baptist churches were planted in this area. The first Baptist association formed in Virginia was the Kellogg. It was constituted in 1766 of four churches which transferred from the Philadelphia Baptist Association, oldest in the land.

THE GREENBRIER Baptist Association owes its origin to Elders John Alderson and

IT WAS AT THE church at Big Levels that the first meeting of the Greenbrier Baptist Association was held. In October, 1801, the initial meeting was assembled. Constituent churches numbered four—Old Greenbrier, Indian Creek, Big Levels, and Old Kanawha.

The total membership of those four struggling churches in 1801 was 169.

In the intervening years, the Association has grown to 1,690 churches and 169,000 members.

by Brickman

SIX OTHER CHURCHES in the Greenbrier association are also getting up in years and will celebrate their centennial year ere long.

They are the Hinton First Baptist Church, 1873; Mount Pleasant church, Route 1, Union, 1873; Pine Grove Church at Lindsdale, 1870; Homeverle church at Homeverle, 1877; Smoot church at Smoot, 1873; and Zion's Light church, Rural Route, Homeverle, 1876.

The foregoing half-dozen churches are between 90 and 100 years old.

BEVER CREEK church at Kiefer, 1869; Broad Run church at Wolf Creek, 1863; Ralview church at Forest Hill, 1869; Little Wolf Creek church at Hinton (Buck House), 1859; Old Greenbrier Church, at Alderson, 1781; Peterstown church, Market Street, Peterstown, 1846; Sinks Grove church at Sinks Grove, 1846; Sweet Springs church at Sweet Springs, 1867; Valley Baptist Church at Zennith, 1867; and West Point church at Asbury, 1859.

ELEVEN OF THE churches which had membership in the Greenbrier association are well over 100 years old. Those churches, together with dates of their beginnings, are as follows:

Indian Creek Church joined the Primitive (Hardyville) Baptist Church, was not long lived in the realm where always flourished the green bay tree of life with distinction. A few years ago the Old Kanawha church, formed in 1796, lined up with the independent churches.

Only the Old Greenbrier remains in the original Greenbrier Baptist Association as it started out more than 169 years ago.

BRICKMAN

12-8



IF YOU ASK ME, THE OLD NIXON IS ALIVE AND WELL AND LIVING IN A NEW—


NG, AUGUST 21, 1969





MEADOW RIVER
HYATTSPRING PARK
1910-1911
W. H. HARRIS





Charmco Area Hard Hit By Rampaging Flood Waters

Red Cross workers were rushed to the Charmco area Wednesday when rising waters forced several families from their homes and closed several roads. All of Greenbrier County was affected by the rampaging flood waters and two elderly residents, a 91-year-old Renick resident and her 66-year-old daughter, drowned when the water rushed into their home

during the night. The top photo shows a portion of U. S. 60, between McRoss and Charmco, which was closed to all traffic, except large tractor-trailer trucks, late Wednesday. Meadow River Roadside Park, located about three miles east of Charmco on U. S. 60, was completely covered by water and the bottom photo shows the condition of a nearby bridge after it was

smashed by the torrential water. The old Rupert High School building was being used by the 300 residents of nearby Anjean, who sought shelter after Little Clear Creek jumped its banks. All traffic was being stopped Wednesday night east of Rainelle and routed through Spring Dale and Smoot as the water continued to rise on the highway at McRoss and Charmco.

Midland Trail Is Banked With History

SHIRLEY DONNELLY

If there is a linear mile on the Midland Trail through Fayette County upon which there has not transpired enough things of historical interest to fill a small book, that space of 5280 feet is unknown to this chronicler.

While barreling along that thoroughfare the other day between Lovers Leap and Ansted, there was the place where James B. Hamilton lived until the early part of 1863.

This young man was the son of Col. Thomas B. Hamilton, proprietor of the tavern on the James River and Kanawha Turnpike a short way from Lover's Leap and Hawks Nest.

In those days the public conferred the synthetic rank of colonel on men who owned and operated such public houses of accommodation as the Hawks Nest Tavern of Thomas B. Hamilton.

Instances of this were Col. Aaron Stockton, whose tavern graced Kanawha Falls, and Col. William Tyree, who was owner and operator of the Old Stone House near Clifftop.

JAMES B. HAMILTON was not in sympathy with the Southern cause in the Civil War and was more or less outspoken about it.

He was the grandfather of Dr. Edward St. Clair Hamilton, Oak Hill citizen who, in addition to being the dean of the doctors of Fayette County, is a banker, merchant, landlord and church man, all rolled together in one aggressive personality.

Neighbors of James B. Hamilton in the Lovers Leap



vicinity were mostly of the Southern stripe, so talked among themselves and the Confederate soldiers on duty in that section of the Union sympathizer which Hamilton was.

That sealed his doom — "cooked his goose" — as they used to express it in those times. It was thought by some that this young man had perhaps been in touch with the Union officers who were also in the Gauley Bridge area.

JAMES B. HAMILTON was as versatile as his Oak Hill grandson in that he was able to do many things and do each of them well. He was a self-taught civil engineer, school teacher, farmer, carpenter, and road builder.

He married young to Miss Matilda Wood of the family from whom the present day town of Ansted derived its initial name of Woodville.

I knew his son, Alexander W. Hamilton, who was born on June 2, 1856. He lived in Oak Hill during the closing years of his life and was an authority on the early history of Fayette County.

Mrs. Matilda Wood Hamilton lived to the age of 84 years, dying in 1893, which was 30 years after the death of her Union sympathizer husband.

WHEN CONFEDERATE forces were in the Ansted area in 1863, James B. Hamilton was arrested as a political prisoner and hustled off to the prison-of-war compound at Salisbury, N. C. His offense was that of being of northern sympathies. He died in Salisbury prison in 1863 at the age of 33.

Confederate soldiers took Hamilton from his home one morning at daybreak when his son, Alex W. Hamilton, was seven years old. In the sunset years of his life, the boy who

of Civil War times.

He was awakened that fateful morning in early 1863 to tell his 33-year old father good-bye. Where he lived at the time of his father's arrest was a short distance from the turnpike.

He recalled vividly seeing his father being marched down the lane from his home to start the long death-march to Salisbury prison. Hamilton was first taken to Lewisburg and from there transferred to the North Carolina war prison.

Cause of his death was never known to members of the Hamilton family.

DURING THE early years of the Civil War, everything in the Fayette County section where the Hamiltons lived was simply "touch-and-go." There was sporadic fighting in that region all the time.

Casualties on both sides were numerous. Families carried on the contest as well as men in uniform.

Between Ansted and Gauley Bridge very few houses remained at the close of the war in 1865. Occupants of the houses were either for one side or the other in the conflict, so got their homes burned to the ground by those who differed with them in the four-year civil struggle.

Reduced to charcoal was the imposing edifice — "Gauley Mount" — of Col. C. O. Tompkins. His home stood on the site of the club house on present day golf grounds on Gauley Mountain.

Tompkins was a graduate of West Point but joined with the Confederacy at the outset of the Civil War in 1861.

In that Tompkins residence — the show place on all the James River and Kanawha Turnpike — Union officers held army justice trials when they were on duty in the Gauley

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Lee's Tree Gone, But Site Is Mecca

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

The Mountaineer Travel Council (MTC), which promotes the "scenic southern section of the Mountain State" and is headed by Oliver B. Porterfield of Athens as managing director, has requested information on Lee's Tree and the Old Stone House.

The request came a month ago but only now has the mail worked down to where response can be made.



LEE'S TREE, stately sugar maple which graced the summit of Big Sewell Mountain, highest point on the Midland Trail, is two miles west of Rainelle. On Rt. 60, near the road that runs to the mountain summit, there is a state historic marker.

It was under that spreading sugar maple tree that Gen. Robert E. Lee's tent was pitched during the Sewell Mountain campaign in 1861.

The tree, which was large even in 1861, remained standing until about 30 or so years ago. After it had begun to die, it was struck by lightning. Winds broke off dead limbs and the ground near the tree base was littered with them.

When passing there one day, a stop was made and some of the fallen limbs retrieved as treasured items associated with the noble Confederate chieftain. Forks of limbs were nailed above museum doors to make supports for old mountain rifles.

WHEN THE TREE had "done its do," a chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy secured the entire tree and fashioned souvenirs from the

wood.

Today the famous sugar maple is no more, but history buffs still turn aside to visit the spot associated for 108 years with the master of Arlington. It was just 108 years ago that Lee was on his way to the Sewell section.

During the cold October and November rains that year, his command was without tentage. An epidemic of measles broke out among the soldiers, and the men died like flies. Exposure and disease exacted its toll and decimated the ranks of the "boys in grey."

While encamped on Big Sewell under the sugar maple tree, Lee received some woolen socks which Mrs. Lee knitted and sent to the general. He gave them to soldiers who needed them worse than their general did.

IT WAS WHILE Lee's men were stricken with measles and dying from pneumonia that all housing in the area was used for hospitalization. It was at that time that the Old Stone House, then in its 37th year of existence, was put into use as a hospital and infirmary.

Lucky it was for the sick soldiers that the Old Stone House was at hand to shelter them.

Nestling in a beautiful cove at the western foot of Big Sewell Mountain in Fayette County, this famous tavern was one of the most popular of the road houses which dotted the James River and Kanawha Turnpike.

Up Ravens Eye Road a mile lived Andrew Amick, whom General Lee used as one of his scouts to keep a weather eye on the restless Union forces a few miles west of the Confederate encampment on Sewell.

Amick had told Lee of the

accommodations afforded by the Old Stone House and its fruitful fields, which are now back in forests. Sick and wounded soldiers were quartered in the three-story house by the never-failing spring, under a spreading beech tree, which provided an ample supply of mountain water.

IT WAS WHILE Robert E. Lee was tenting under the noted sugar maple that he got his first glimpse of Traveller, his famous war horse, which carried Lee through the Civil War campaigns.

At first sight of the horse, Lee liked him and inquired about the animal. Traveller had been foaled on the Andrew Johnson farm in Greenbrier county and was owned by a captain in Lee's command. Lee inquired if the colt were for sale, but it did not pass into the general's possession until a year later down in one of the Carolinas.

Lee then paid in gold when he bought the animal after refusing to accept him as a gift.



★Greenbrier Area

Moncove Lake In Monroe County Is Known As Fisherman's Delight

By ANN M. DRANSFIELD

UNION (RNS) — Monroe County residents are quite proud of Moncove Lake, which is located about 15 miles east of Union the county seat, on Route 3.

Moncove Lake is situated on a 275-acre tract in Monroe County's Sweet Springs Valley and has been a fisherman's delight since 1960. This beautiful 144-acre lake resulted from impoundment of Devil's Creek in 1959. The lake soon became known as a proving ground for surface lures and has maintained this reputation without dispute.

The lake's two and one-half miles of shoreline mixed with cattail and pond weed yields largemouth bass each week, measuring 15 to 20 inches. Bass in the 10 to 12-inch class are taken regularly throughout the year.

Fishing below 10 feet in Moncove Lake during the summer months is inadvisable since the lake is deficient in oxygen at this level. Natural baits are effective in early spring and late summer. Surface lures or shallow runners and spring salamanders are "tops" for this impoundment.

Ralph E. Hess of Gap Mills is wildlife manager for Moncove Lake. He states that management plans by fisheries biologists are directed at increasing bass growth and establishing good channel cat populations in order to sustain high quality fishing. Steps are planned to increase bass growth to include the introduction of threadfin shad as forage for the bass, weed control and fertilization.

In order to maintain the lake for fishermen, a maximum of five horsepower has been set for motor-driven craft. Boaters must have at least one life preserver per person in the boat at all times. All state boating regulations apply.

Swimming is allowed only in the designated sand beach area. The camper will find 30 tent or trailer areas. Management is in the process of having central bath houses and they hope to have a trailer dumping station (but no hook-ups) by this season. They do have boats for rent.

Cost for camping is \$2 a night for a party of six or less and twenty five cents for each additional person per night. Other facilities for campers and fishermen are: Forty-five picnic tables, 16 fireplaces, six pit-type toilets, two centrally located wells, four docks, one boat launching area and a swimming area. Vending machines also are available for public use.

The manager is on duty to assist with problems and information. No private camps may be built on the state property.

Many acres of property have been cleared for camp sites by private individuals near the lake. There have been 131 of these sites sold and there are many more available.

Of much interest near the lake (not on state property) is a store, which was built in April of this year by C. Glenn Runions and family of White Sulphur Springs. This store includes arts and crafts of all descriptions. It is hoped that different craftsmen from all

over the state will leave their works here for viewing. They are trying to start a creative movement in West Virginia in the same manner as persons are doing in the Greenbrier Repertory Theater. They also will try to have several adult meetings of craftsmen at this location.

The Runions worked previously from 1964 through 1967 at the William Hilton Inn located at Hilton Head Island, S. C., where they started a children's program in arts and crafts. Here they entertained 80 children per day. The store will be open until after deer season with the official closing after Labor Day. It is located ¾ mile above the lake entrance.

Runions, who teaches at Greenbrier Military School and Greenbrier College for Women at Lewisburg during the school term, is teaching art at the Monroe Swimming Pool in Union each Tuesday. Anyone wishing to attend should do so between 9 a.m. and noon each Tuesday until school starts. About 60 children congregate to participate in the art class.

Runions said that if you catch any fish in the lake, he will do an original painting on "The Store" wall. The largest fish caught between now and Labor Day will receive a \$5 gift certificate for fishing supplies. Classes are: Largest Catfish, (over 17"); Largest Bass, (over 17") and Largest Bluegill, (over 7").

They have maps of most of the lake property and will conduct tours of any surrounding property that one may wish to purchase.

...Once A Thriving Community,
...Quiet Hamlet In GreenAire

Williamsburg, Once A Thriving Community, Is Now Small, Quiet Hamlet In Greenbrier

By SHARELLE RENICK
WILLIAMSBURG (RNS) — Williamsburg, a small community located 16 miles northwest of Lewisburg, is situated between Culverson and Sinking Creeks in Greenbrier County. This rich grazing area is sometimes called Sinking Creek Valley and Alexander R. Handley has in his possession a photographic copy of a land-grant-deed signed by Virginia Governor James Monroe in 1800, giving title of ownership of certain local lands to persons in the Sinking Creek Territory. He released the original to a museum in one of the New England states.

The hamlet of Williamsburg was laid out by Moses McCoy in 1833 and named in honor of Thomas Williams. This first settler in 1769, of Welch descent, lived about three miles southwest of the present site of Williamsburg and was brutally slain by Indians, who carried away his children as captives and burned his log cabin home. A favorite camping spot for Indians seems to have been in that nearby area.

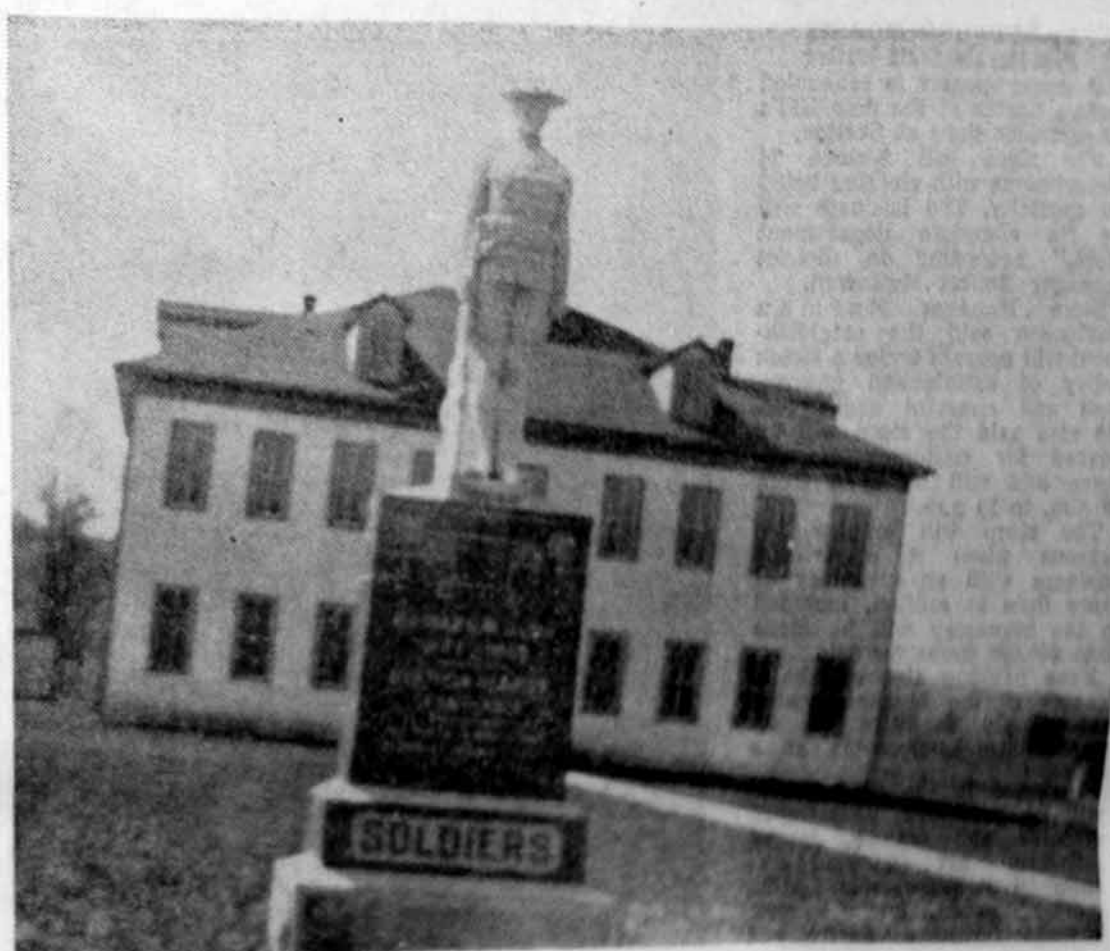
Also in 1769, William Hughart built his log cabin, as did William McCoy, near the Williams home. About the same time, the nearby Frankford settlement was made. During 1771, James Jordan, John Patton and William Blake settled in the immediate area.

Also in 1771, Andrew Donnally settled seven miles south in Rader's Valley and built Fort Donnally for protection from Indian massacres. The site is marked by a stone with inscription on the present farm of Mrs. Ellen Rader Johnson. This strongly built two-story double-log house was privately built on land of his pioneer father, Hugh Donnally, an earlier settler from

Decker shop, opposite the elementary school house, was built in 1888 and was well-equipped. The smith was skilled in meeting all kinds of repair needs. In this variety of community services, one might be made to think of a general store. Tradition has it that a pair of forceps was kept nearby so that aching teeth could be pulled from humans by the same strong hand that shod horses and mended broken plows.

The first grain-grinding mill was built by John Wooden in 1800 and was operated by Sinking Creek water power. Choice timbers were brought from distant Anthony Creek to build this mill. However, prior to this date a combination of grist and sawmill with water power is said to have been erected by Cornelius Van Ansdale. The latter mill was completely overhauled and rebuilt by John Burr in 1830. J. P. Thommasson's water power mill stood south of the present day home of Harry McClung on Shoe String Trail. On Dec. 1, 1887, his combination mill was reported to be grinding all the wheat needed and that W. H. Wyatt had moved his steam mill to new quarters and was grinding rapidly. On April 12, 1888, George Shirkey moved his steam sawmill from the former site on Captain Hannah's farm on the head waters of Culverson Creek to a site on the lands of J. H. Suttle near the village.

Several other mills were in operation in the Sinking Creek Valley, sawing virgin timber and grinding grain for man and beast. By now, the population of the sprawling village had grown to support three general merchantile stores, two blacksmith shops, a harness shop, a gun shop and a feed



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Cornstalk, the celebrated Shawnee chief, was murdered at the battle of Point Pleasant in 1777. The little village of Cornstalk, located about three miles from Williamsburg, was named in honor of this well-known Indian chief.

In 1775 came Uriah Jenkins, Frank Ford and John McFerrin to the small growing village of Williamsburg. Among earlier settlers of this period were George Thompson, Alexander Lipps, Lewis Blake, Marshall Toothman, Peter Livesay, Joseph Griffiee and William Griffiee, the first justice of the peace. In 1776, William Cavendish, Alexander Ocheltree, James Burns and Anthony Rader settled here. By 1780, among settlers were George Mollohan, Charles Hyde, John Gregory, James Kincaid and Washington McMillion. In 1790, it is said that James Brawley, John McMillion, Robert McClintock and James Knight located in the area as well as the Watts and Wyatts families.

By 1800, the scattered settlement was growing fast. It

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Williamsburg was once incorporated and held a charter from the circuit court. Thomas McClintic was police chief in 1931. The first item on the mayor's docket on Dec. 25, 1908, shows a fine of \$2.60 for disorderly conduct against a certain named local citizen. Mayors have included J. G. Kesler, C. L. Toothman, F. L. Wallace, J. D. Hume and E. N. Hanson. Alexander R. Handley was recorder for a number of years and has in his possession valuable records of town and district school activities. When Williamsburg was at its height it had a bank, a garage, a Modern Woodman lodge, an Odd Fellows lodge, two good general stores and several specialty shops.

Williamsburg, from its beginning, has been the crossing point and trading center for four much-used roads. The Rader Valley road from the south meets Trout road from the north and the Frankford road from the east crosses into Shoe String Trail going southwest. Years ago, the late David Tuckwiller, father of Ross Tuckwiller, drove dairy cows from his Richlands farms through Williamsburg to Richwood for rail shipment to

The first public school building constructed in Williamsburg (top photo) was built in 1916. The building was demolished in 1950 to make way for a new, more modern institution. The new school

children must have attended nearby Pembroke School north and the old Pleasant Valley School south.

The first school in Williamsburg is reported to have been taught in a building located directly across the present dirt road in the angle east of the late Dr. E. G. Kesler office, called "Temperance Hall." Tradition associates James Dearing with this school.

First teachers in the area

was first occupied on Jan. 5, 1951. The bottom photo shows the second frame building to be constructed in the small town and it is the oldest structure still standing. Built by John Livesay, it was

Williamsburg High School was established by the District Board of Education in 1917, growing out of a motion made by J. Warwick McClung, and a subsequent popular vote election held March 26. Its first principal and only teacher during 1917-18 was J. D. Rake. The land was purchased from Allen Judy, a part of the C. A. Tacker estate. A. R. Handley was secretary of the board of education from 1917-1933.

Succeeding principals were

originally a part of a mill. The house is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Berlin Judy. The first frame structure was built by N. G. Decker between 1870-75.

organization in honor of Rev. Matthew Lyle Lacy of Lewisburg, the first minister, a stated supply.

By 1886, a number of Presbyterian people had moved into the Williamsburg area including Capt. Alexander Griffin Handley, a member of the Charleston First Presbyterian Church, and Wallace S. Rader of Greenbrier County.

However, it is known that James H. Leps, a Presbyterian pastor and academy teacher at Frankford, often visited the



Oldest Landmark In Williamsburg Is Frame Structure

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By 1800, the scattered settlement was growing fast. It should be understood that because of repeated Indian raids and massacres many whites settled more than once. Members of families often returned to repossess their land. While only male names are mentioned in history, large families are involved. Apart from those who took up land, many were continually on the move. Several Williams families owned much of the land from the beginning and in a few instances, the same family lines have held the identical land.

Among early merchants were Washington Wallace, the father of F. L. Wallace and James Pollock. Joseph Griffiee, also a merchant and an eccentric bachelor, is pointed out to have been the first postmaster. Local exchange communications would pass through his hand quickly. He was supposed to have become wealthy before he died. On Dec. 29, 1887, the Greenbrier Independent newspaper reported that his store had been robbed of \$40 in cash, but no goods were disturbed.

the circuit court. Thomas McClinton was police chief in 1931. The first item on the mayor's docket on Dec. 25, 1908, shows a fine of \$2.60 for disorderly conduct against a certain named local citizen. Mayors have included J. G. Kesler, C. L. Toothman, F. L. Wallace, J. D. Hume and E. N. Hanson. Alexander R. Handley was recorder for a number of years and has in his possession valuable records of town and district school activities. When Williamsburg was at its height it had a bank, a garage, a Modern Woodman lodge, an Odd Fellows lodge, two good general stores and several specialty shops.

Williamsburg, from its beginning, has been the crossing point and trading center for four much-used roads. The Rader Valley road from the south meets Trout road from the north and the Frankford road from the east crosses into Shoe String Trail going southwest. Years ago, the late David Tuckwiller, father of Ross Tuckwiller, drove dairy cows from his Richlands farms through Williamsburg to Richwood for rail shipment to Morgantown where his large family of children became graduates of West Virginia University.

Physical health has always been one of man's major problems. Dr. Thomas Creigh, born in 1812, was the first president of the Greenbrier Medical Association. Several physicians found their way into the Williamsburg region responding to the urgent call of illness from many diseases. Williamsburg is so located as to be greatly affected by weather conditions. Dr. C. R. Campbell came to Williamsburg in 1885 and Dr. J. D. Thrasher came into Trout Valley in 1901 and died in 1919. He was the father of the late Dr. Leroy Claude Thrasher, dentist. Earlier doctors must have been transients. Snowden's Pond, two miles north, was so named after the drowning of a Dr. Snowden. A Dr. Fuque did have a local office. Dr. John DeShone, a brother of Josephine DeShone, the first local school teacher of French descent, was not a local resident. Dr. Elmer G. Kesler, who was a circuit

children must have attended nearby Pembroke School north and the old Pleasant Valley School south.

The first school in Williamsburg is reported to have been taught in a building located directly across the present dirt road in the angle east of the late Dr. E. G. Kesler office, called "Temperance Hall." Tradition associates James Dearing with this school.

First teachers in the area were part-time employed or self-employed in rough log cabins, usually about 12 by 22 feet, log furnished, community built and subscription supported.

A very early school was taught two miles north located on the farm of James Williams, grandfather of Alex R. Handley. Matthew Oliver is said to have been a teacher there. In 1870, a school was taught by A. D. Kincaid. It was a frame structure, a few miles southwest, and is said to be the first entirely free school.

A Greenbrier County official survey map, dated 1887, a copy of which is now in the possession of A. R. Handley, shows six schools in the Williamsburg District as follows: Pleasant Valley, one mile southwest on Shoe String Trail; Maysville, now Sunlight, three miles northeast; Cold Knob, six miles northwest on Trout Road; Cold Springs, three miles off Shoe String Trail; Bethel, three miles south in Rader Valley.

Oldest Landmark In Williamsburg Is Frame Structure

The first public school building constructed in Williamsburg (top photo) was built in 1916. The building was demolished in 1950 to make way for a new, more modern institution. The new school

was first occupied on Jan. 5, 1951. The bottom photo shows the second frame building to be constructed in the small town and it is the oldest structure still standing. Built by John Livesay, it was

originally a part of a mill. The house is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Berlin Judy. The first frame structure was built by N. G. Decker between 1870-75.

Williamsburg High School was established by the District Board of Education in 1917, growing out of a motion made by J. Warwick McClung, and a subsequent popular vote election held March 26. Its first principal and only teacher during 1917-18 was J. D. Rake. The land was purchased from Allen Judy, a part of the C. A. Tacker estate. A. R. Handley was secretary of the board of education from 1917-1933.

Succeeding principals were Harry J. Stuke, O. S. Martin, R. S. Deck, N. C. Bishop, I. N. Horn, O. R. Kyle, D. V. Evans, J. O. Montgomery, D. D. Harrah, Dotson Robinson, Homer May, John Ford, O. R. Kyle, H. H. Ellyson, R. G. Nunley, Robert Beamer, J. E. Hayes, Edwin Coffman and Charles Boothe. A. G. Sykes is the present principal.

In 1963, the upper three grades were consolidated with the Renick and Frankford students at Frankford High School, making the one at Williamsburg a junior high and elementary school.

The Presbyterian Church in Williamsburg was organized Nov. 28, 1886, by the authority of the Greenbrier Presbytery and later named by the

organization in honor of Rev. Matthew Lyle Lacy of Lewisburg, the first minister, a stated supply.

By 1899, a number of Presbyterian people had moved into the Williamsburg area including Capt. Alexander Griffin Handley, a member of the Charleston First Presbyterian Church, and Wallace S. Rader of Greenbrier County.

However, it is known that James H. Leps, a Presbyterian pastor and academy teacher at Frankford, often visited the community and conducted worship services for nearby Presbyterians some of whom, no doubt, belonged to the Frankford and Richlands congregations. Because of entering the community rather late, the Lacy church membership has remained small as seldom more than 30 persons attended during any one year.

As early as 1796, Methodism moved into the Williamsburg area and organized its first church. Rev. John Pennell is said to have been among early ministers, who may have been circuit riders from Monroe County's historic Rehoboth, or from the early Gilboa church near Frankford as early as 1791.

The Andrew Chapel Methodist Church in Williamsburg was named for Andrew McCoy. Having been constructed of inferior materials, put together by slave labor, the brick building erected in 1855 was torn down in 1900.

Mrs. Skaggs Gives Alderson Program

ALDERSON (RNS) — "Drop-outs in West Virginia" was

In 1771, William Cavendish, Alexander O. Heltzer, James Davis and Anthony Parker settled here. By 1780, among settlers were George Muldohk, Charles Hyde, John Casper, James Kincaid and Washington McMillan. In 1780, it is said that James Brawley, John McMillan, Robert McClinton and James Knight located in the area as well as the Walls and Wyatt families.

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As late as 1870 only one United States mail trip served the area weekly and it passed

Williamsburg, from its beginning, has been the crossroads and leading center for the south. The road from the north and the Frankford road from the east crosses into southwest. Years ago, the late David Tuckwiller, father of Ross Tuckwiller, drove dairy cows from his Richlands farms through Williamsburg to Rich-Morgantown where his large family of children became graduates of West Virginia University.

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The Andrew Chapel Methodist Church in Williamsburg was named for Andrew McCoy. Having been constructed of inferior materials, put together by slave labor, the brick building erected in 1855 was torn down in 1898.

The present Andrew Chapel, completed in 1900, was built by John J. Toothman. He received \$200 plus the old discarded brick material for his labor.

Projects Planned

Mrs. Skaggs Gives Alderson Program

ALDERSON (RNS) — "Drop-outs in West Virginia" was the subject Mrs. Earnest Lee Skaggs chose for the program at the general meeting of the Alderson Woman's Club held Thursday evening in Fellowship Hall of Alderson Presbyterian

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ALDERSON (RNS) — "Drop out in West Virginia" was the subject Mrs. Earnest Lee Skaggs chose for the program at the general meeting of the Thursday evening in Fellowship Hall of Alderson Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. Skaggs showed a film on "Education Design '69."

Department chairmen submitted their annual reports. Mrs. Duncan Johnston, president, expressed her appreciation for the cooperation and work achieved by the departments during the year.

Mrs. Pearl Johnston gave the devotional on the subject, "Biblical Guidelines for 1969." She gave resolutions for the New Year based on scriptures.

An adult education panel discussion will compose the program for the general meeting in April.

Refreshments were served from a tea table which held a center arrangement of wooden fruit and vegetables flanked by amber hurricane candles. Hostesses were Mrs. Earl Berkley, Mrs. C. E. Hawks, Mrs. Joe Feamster, Mrs. R. L. Withrow, Mrs. William J. Meadows and Miss Laura Lehman.

Others present were Mrs. Charles Hedrick, Mrs. James Weikle, Mrs. James Harrah, Mrs. E. Grayson Housby, Mrs. J. W. Raine, Mrs. John Grevillius, Mrs. Ray Spencer, Miss Ellen Langley Johnson, Mrs. Ted B. Law, Mrs. Edwin Pugh, Mrs. Betty Outten, Mrs. J. J. Fleshman, Mrs. W. E. Bondurant, Mrs. James Carman, Mrs. Rodney Pack and Mrs. N. W. Looney.

Projects Planned By Hinton Tri-Hi-Y

HINTON (RNS) — The Hinton High School Tri-Hi-Y Club met Monday evening to plan money-making projects to finance a trip to Charleston for a Youth In Government meeting. Five members are planning to make the trip.

The devotional was given by Sarah Harford.

A bake sale will be held today in front of Cox's Store beginning at 9 a. m. A "Slave Day" sale will be held Feb. 3 and club members will be available for hire for odd jobs.

Attending were Nannie Bengoy, Barbara Turner, Vana Trail, Jenny Rodes, Debbie Bennett, Donna Bird, Vickie Bivens, Sharon Carson, Becky Dyer, Jo Anne Farley.

Janet Fields, Ruth Ann Fields, Linda Goins, Sarah Harford, Karen Lucas, Lynn Meadows, Ann Noel, Cheryl Ratliff and D. E. Tassos, sponsor.

Mothers Plan Meeting

ALDERSON (RNS) — The Alderson Mothers Club will meet at 7:30 p. m. Tuesday in the home of Mrs. James Knapp with Mrs. J. J. Fleshman serving as co-hostess. The program will be entitled "Stamp Collection" and will be given by Ted B. Law.

...the first local school...
...a local resident, Dr. Elmer...
...practiced medicine in...
...has been an resident...
...in Williamsburg since...
...death in 1950.

Williamsburg has been disappointed in many of her aspirations. In 1837 wealthy built a three-story brick house on the Frankford Road two miles northeast, hoping the Co. would build through the area.

When Belliver Williams inherited his father's large holdings he sold this imposing residence to David Tuckwiller, who gave the property to his daughter, Catherine.

She married Emory Knight and they became the parents of Remington Knight, the present owner. The house, planned and built for a stop-over and tavern, along with the late Dr. C. F. McClintic home nearby, is suggestive of attempts in the past to have Williamsburg achieve a place among progressive communities. The situation now is that the Williamsburg area is isolated from main lines of travel and communication. Midland Trail, U. S. Route 60, runs nine miles south and Seneca Trail, U. S. Route 219 runs nine miles north, crossing each other at Lewisburg.

All earlier schools in Williamsburg were privately supported. Pioneer school teachers in the area before 1800 included William Cavendish, Andrew Rhodes and James Kyle. For a number of years, B. Law,

The Andrew Chapel Methodist Church in Williamsburg was named for Andrew McCoy. Having been constructed of inferior materials, put together by slave labor, the brick building erected in 1855 was torn down in 1938.

The present Andrew Chapel, completed in 1938, was built by John J. Toothman. He received \$200 plus the old discarded brick material for his labor. Rev. George Richardson was the pastor. The land where the church now stands was deeded to the church trustees in 1855 by Bollard McClung and his wife, Elizabeth, for \$1.

The earlier frame parsonage, purchased in 1909 from Dr. C. I. Wall, was built nearly 75 years ago by James McCoy. In 1854, an eight-room modern brick home was completed for Methodist pastors. It cost about \$25,000. The one acre of ground, in a new location, was bought from Otis Bryant for about \$2,500.

Methodist ministers who have served the Williamsburg church since the organization of the Lacy Presbyterian Church in 1886 are E. H. Henry, Leonidas Butts, G. O. Homan, George Richardson, A. F. Neel, L. B. Atkins, A. L. Harnesberger, V. T. Wheeler, A. L. Goodall, J. P. Atkins, C. M. Sarver, E. G. Helmsintoller, G. H. Echols, W. J. Elliot, E. W. Brubaker, W. F. Hodges, J. D. Russell, R. D. Marshall, I. S. Shires, J. Q. Geiger, John Sarver, L. E. Seville, Mamie Keplinger, W. R. Turner, Ira Hill and Bernard Skeena. Ray Perkins is the present pastor. Rev. E. H. Henry was a contemporary with Rev. M. L. Lacy, also a contemporary with Rev. S. L. Wilson.

Present establishments, outside of the school and two churches, are four service stations, three grocery stores, a mill, a harness shop and the post office.

...the first local school...
...a local resident, Dr. Elmer...
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As late as 1898 only one...
...the area recently and it passed...
...through Williamsburg from...
...Chambersville to Falling Spring...
...John Robinson, a Negro slave...
...of the Perry family, carried...
...this road the first year. About...
...this time, it is said that most...
...of Lewis Williamsburg was still...
...to travel with stumps and...
...crushed dirt paths.

Shortly thereafter, however, there began to be built frame houses, replacing crude log cabins, with ample space for good gardens. The first is said to have been built by N. G. Barker. The second frame dwelling was erected by John Levey and was a part of the house occupied by Alexander Griffith Handley when he died in 1838 at the age of 92. In 1880, a twice-weekly mail route was established between Williamsburg and Lewisburg. This later became three times per week service and finally, a daily mail service resulted.

The Bank of Williamsburg was chartered in 1919 and business was carried on in an old store building owned by J. L. Wyatt. This structure was burned and in 1920, the present brick building was built and is now a small grocery store owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Wilton Toothman.

Blacksmith shops have been interesting, also valuable local centers of American pioneer life. Several were in and around Williamsburg. The first one is claimed to have been the Lively shop in 1783 on the Washington McMillan land. The



Community Relations Project Completed In Greenbrier

The Anthony Job Corps community relations project for White Sulphur Springs was completed Thursday with the placing of 10 custom-built picnic tables valued at \$1,000 by the Job Corps in Memorial Park. Representatives of various clubs in the town

working on the project were present for the placing of the tables. They are (left to right) Rev. Douglas Shepherd, Rotary; Paul Creel Jr., Rotary; George Parker, Memorial Park Association secretary; John A. Arbogast, town councilman; and

representatives of the Job Corps, Sylvester Trice, James Mumfrey and Larenza Barrett. The community relations project was started in 1968. All the work and money used in Memorial Park, totaling \$3,000, were donated by the Job Corps.

June 5/69

★ Greenbrier Valley



One Of Lewisburg's Oldest

122-Year-Old House Admired In Lewisburg

LEWISBURG, Sept. 6 (RNS) — Visitors to U. S. route 219 pass by one of the older homes in Lewisburg. Owned by Mr. and Mrs. Dave Burns, Lewisburg and Renick, it is located on the corner of Jefferson and Foster, one block from the junction of U. S. 60-219.

Many stop and inquire about the old, but well-preserved home. To the passerby, it is obviously very old.

History of the home goes back to 1834, or a few years prior, when John W. Dunn, a successful brick-mason and builder, erected the two-story home. Dunn also made the brick and helped build the Greenbrier County Court House and some of the finer homes in the area.

One section of the old house is made of limestone blocks. The basement has walls 24 inches thick.

The entire home has been covered with plaster to conceal other additions added during the years.

Blue Sulphur Was Once A Famous Spa

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

When we were burying Sheffie Rainey (May 4, 1904-Jan. 30, 1969), a native of Blue Sulphur Springs, the history of that once-fabulous place began to well up in memory.

Blue Sulphur derived its name from the color of the sediment deposited by what past generations considered to be healing waters.

In ante-bellum days, the great and the near-great of the Old South resorted thither in private carriages and with servants of color to wait upon them hand and foot.

Long gone is the patronage of the place, as well as the famed hotel and related structures, but the haze of history still hangs over the sequestered vale in which the crystal clear spring still flows.

The property was reduced to ashes by the Union Army more than a century ago. On a wall in my study is an enlargement of Beyer's sketch of the Blue Sulphur Springs Hotel. This sketch was in the storied Album of Virginia, now an item coveted by collectors of Americana.

FROM THIS HISTORIC spring came the name Blue Sulphur Magisterial District in southwestern Greenbrier County.

The northern boundary of the district is marked by the old state road, dating from 1786, which led to Bowyer's Ferry (Sewell) in Fayette County

stage," and Clarence Williams, "and nobody knew me. Gloria and I went back to New York to see some shows and I couldn't duck out at intermission for a cigarette, I was so muddled."

He paused, stared across the room at a television set. "That too," he said. "How it can sell soap! If it could only sell humanity. . ."

(where Peter Bowyer operated a ferry across New River as early as 1775).

The historic James River and Kanawha Turnpike skirts the northeast of Blue Sulphur District. The eastern boundary is the Muddy Creek Mountain range. Greenbrier River forms the southern boundary. Summers County hems the district on the west.

Mountains are high in this district but between the towering heights is good bottom land, which is fertile. Muddy Creek flows southwest through the district to pour its flood into the Greenbrier River, second longest river entirely within the boundary of West Virginia. (The Elk River is longer.)

Muddy Creek was so named by pioneers because it appears muddy. Hamilton Creek is a tributary of Muddy Creek. Marlins Creek and Kitchen Creek, both small, complete the drainage of the district.

FIRST DWELLING in Blue Sulphur District was about 1772, when Samuel McKinney erected a rude log cabin on Muddy Creek, not far from where an Indian band, under young Chief Cornstalk, massacred all inhabitants at Lewisburg and on Muddy Creek Mountain nine years earlier, in 1763.

McKinney's first neighbor was David Keeney, whose name is perpetuated in Keeney's Knob.

The next settler in the district was an ill-fated pioneer named Monday, who fell prey to savages shortly after settling on Muddy Creek Mountain.

Other early settlers were William Feamster, Abraham Griffith, Thomas Kelly, Samuel Kincaid, John Conner, James Jarrett Sr., Andrew Burns, William Robert Wallace, Thomas Masterson, James Holcomb, James Butcher, Samuel Humphreys, Franklin Tinscher, Joseph McClung, William Anderson, Samuel Cooper, John Piercy, Thomas Caraway, Samuel McCorkle, Francis William Hamilton, Joseph Noff, and James Levisy.

FRANKLIN TINCHOR put the first grist mill in Blue Sulphur District in 1790, while George Washington was serving his first term as president. It was a single-gear, water-powered mill used only for grinding corn.

The first saw mill in the district was erected in 1818 by John Piercy. It was built of logs and located on the bank of Muddy Creek.

The first sermon in the area was by the Rev. John Alderson, who organized the Greenbrier Baptist Church on Nov. 24, 1781, at Alderson, on the Greenbrier side of the Greenbrier River. This was the first church in the district.

Gen. Robert E. Lee's celebrated mount, Traveller, came from Blue Sulphur District.

You're Telling Me!

By WILLIAM RITT

COMPUTER controlled automobiles with electronic devices controlling the automatic pilot system are predicted as a possibility before the year 2000. What an improvement! — from the present back-seat to a no-seat driver!

!!!

If space travel ever becomes so congested that there'll be a question as to who has the right-of-way, Dick Patton suggests the matter might be settled by arbitration.

!!!

There's a shortage of beer bottles in Sydney, Australia, where, apparently, a lot of people like their suds. Too many glassy-eyed customers?

!!!

An airplane pilot encountered a new hazard while flying over Las Positas Flats at Livermore, Calif. He was conked on the noggin by a high-flying golf ball.

Red Sulphur Church Started In 1820

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

When we passed through Red Sulphur Springs Valley the other afternoon en route to the new Missionary Baptist Church at Ballard, the story of Red Sulphur Springs Valley the flashed on the horizon of memory.

Red Sulphur Springs Baptist Church was organized in 1820, the year after we bought Florida while James Monroe was serving his first term as president. That was 200 years after the Pilgrims had landed at Plymouth Rock.

Red Sulphur Springs Baptist Church was one of the churches that long was prominent in the Greenbrier Baptist Association.



GREENBRIER BAPTIST

Association was formed in 1801 by the union of four churches: Old Greenbrier at Alderson, organized 1781; Indian Creek, 1792; Big Laurel, 1796; Pratt (Old Kanawha), 1796.

Other churches which subsequently became members of the association, together with year of their organization, were: Hopewell in Fayette County, first in 1799, next in 1820; Healing Springs, Bath Co., Va., 1824; Zoar, in Nicholas at Cross Lanes, 1824; Amwell, in Greenbrier, 1825; Antioch, in Fayette, 1832; Lick Creek, in Summers, 1863; Liberty, at Ramsey in Fayette, 1848; Mt. Pleasant, in Nicholas, 1850; Jeannette, at Edmond in Fayette, 1851; Meadow Grove, in Greenbrier, 1852; Bel Creek, in Nicholas, 1853; Enon, in Nicholas, 1861; Summersville, in Nicholas, 1865; Mt. Zion, in Fayette, 1866; Sycamore, in Clay, 1866; Salem, in Nicholas, 1868.

In the intervening years, a number of these churches have

the small society

been plagued with internal disorders and have been split asunder. Historic Red Sulphur church is one of them.

AS ORIGINALLY made up, the Greenbrier Baptist Association was spread over several counties. Delegates from the several churches met in the annual session of the Greenbrier Association in 1871 at Alderson.

Realizing the impracticability of travel by horse and buggy or on horseback to the distant meeting points of the association, it was voted at the 1871 meeting to divide the widespread churches of the Greenbrier into at least two new associations.

Next year, 1872, the Hopewell and the Raleigh Baptist associations came into being. Territory west of Muddy Creek and north of New River (except Cotton Hill) was to comprise one of the new groups. This became the Hopewell Baptist Association. It met in Hopewell Baptist Church in January, 1872, to effect an organization. A. N. Rippetoe was elected moderator and J. H. Miller Jr. was chosen clerk. The association took its name from the oldest church in it.

ONE OF THE most historic churches in the Hopewell Baptist Association that is still going strong is the Zoar Baptist Church. Charter members of that organization chose a Bible name by which to be known. Zoar was the city to which Lot fled for refuge when his home towns of Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed with "brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven" (Genesis 19: 23, 24).

One of the original worshippers in the Zoar Baptist Church was Henry Morris, son of William Morris, the first permanent settler in the Kanawha Valley.

Henry Morris's two daughters were killed by Indians in 1792, the last two white people killed

by savages in this area.

At Lockwood on U. S. 19, there is an historic marker which says: "Morris Massacre. Scene of massacre, 1792, of daughters of Henry Morris, early settler and son of first permanent settler in Great Kanawha Valley. Graves of Henry Morris and the Indian victims may be seen from the road." On the court house grounds at Summersville stands an imposing monument to the two little Morris girls, Indian victims of 176 years ago.

ZOAR BAPTIST Church was organized April 17, 1824. Fourteen members made up the charter list of members, all having been dismissed by letter from Hopewell Baptist Church in Fayette County of today but Nicholas county then.

Here is what became of those members: Thomas Bail, excluded, 1828; David and Sally Lilly, dismissed by letter, June 20, 1830; Fanny Lilly, dismissed by letter, Dec. 22, 1835; Jane Morris, died; Edward Ryan, died Aug. 11, 1835; Mary Ryan (Rian) died; John Campbell, died May 18, 1840; Nancy Campbell, died Dec. 22, 1831; Deborah McClung, died April 16, 1837; Henry and Jane Hess, dismissed by letter, Nov. 25, 1836; Israel Brown, dismissed by letter.

Some of those early members lived 30 miles or more from where the church house was erected afterward.

Zoar Baptist Church at Kesslers Cross Lanes was used as a hospital for the wounded in Civil War times. It stood on the battlefield where, in August, 1861, Gen. John Floyd's Confederate force scattered an Ohio regiment which was at breakfast. Nearby, the battle of Cranifex Ferry was fought on Sept. 10, 1861.

Present house of worship of Zoar Baptist Church replaced the frame meeting house that was destroyed by fire in recent years.

by Brickman

Early Irish Of Greenbrier County--I

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

A letter says that while this column has touched lightly on the story of Irish Mountain in Raleigh County, it is wondered why nothing has ever been written concerning the Irish who found homes in Greenbrier County.

Scant is the date at hand on the Irish and Irish Corner Magisterial District of Greenbrier, albeit that favored county is full of the descendants of the sons of the Old Sod.



There was a settlement, or colony, of Irish in the meadows of western Greenbrier County. Numbered in that colony were Michael Sweeney, McCormick Rogers, Pat Bressenham, Michael Call, Pat Dougher, James Fleming, the Sullivans, the Donahoes, and others of like faith and order. These came from the old country, the Emerald Isle.

There is a tradition that they settled in the meadows of Greenbrier's Meadow Bluff Magisterial District because it was similar to the land in Ireland. It was rolling and damp.

And another primary consideration was that it was reported to be free from poisonous snakes!

A WELL KNOWN ability of the Irish is to use a spade. Those early settlers in the meadows country of Meadow Bluff set to work with their spades and soon had the wet lands well drained, thus rendering the soil fit for good crops.

Much of the rapid development of western Greenbrier county was due to the energy and know how of those thrifty Gaels. Jevver hear of "Grassy

Meadows"?

SHORTLY AFTER I settled at Oak Hill in January, 1923, the papers of Fayette County carried the news of the deaths of two of the Irish people of the Smoot section.

They were Mr. and Mrs. Michael Relehan and the clipping which tells the story of the passing of those two good people is in my files. Mrs. Relehan, who before her marriage was Mary Wash, died Jan. 24, 1923, at the age of about 78 years. She died in the morning of that day and on the morning of the following day, her husband joined his wife in death. He was much older than his wife—89, I believe.

MICHAEL RELEHAN and his wife, were an interesting couple. He was born in County Terry, Ireland, and came to America when he was 13 years old. Michael's Mary was born in County Tipperary, Ireland.

They did not meet until after the close of the Civil War in this country. They were married in Norfolk, Va., and headed for Meadow Bluff District of Greenbrier County where they were to spend their long lives.

RELEHAN WAS something like 26 or 27 years old when the Civil War engulfed the nation. Living in a section where Confederate sentiment was predominant, the young Irishman cast his lot with the Confederacy. He was assigned to the famed "Stonewall Brigade," the "foot cavalry" led by Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson (1824-1863).

With the close of the Civil War, the Relehans—both Catholic—set about the business of rearing a family. They had 11 children, nine of whom grew to maturity. One of those nine children was Patrick Relehan, long a resident of Springdale.

Only a few days ago someone wrote and asked where could be found the records of the Catholic church there and a list of the interments in its consecrated burial ground. I don't know.

Other Relehan children were Maggie, who married a Twohig; Dick, John, Julia, Tom, Mary Anne, Morris, and Biddie. That was over 45 years ago when the parents of these children died and, in all likelihood, those who were left are now gone.

A DOUBLE FUNERAL for Michael and Mary Relehan was conducted in the old St. John Catholic Church with the Rev. J. P. McKernan, another Irishman, as the officiating celebrant. They buried the old couple in the Meadow Bluff Catholic Cemetery.

All of the so-called "Old Irish" of Greenbrier and Raleigh counties long ago went the way of all flesh. Here and there in our hill country are some of their descendants. But gone is the brogue of the first edition of those sturdy people who knew the meaning of hard work and loved the land like it was their mother.

God rest their untented souls!

Early Irish Of Greenbrier County--II

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

After mention of the ground-floor Irish settlers in Greenbrier county in yesterday's column, some of them will be given another "lick-and-a-promise" today.

One of the 10 magisterial districts in historic Greenbrier County is the Irish Corner District. It lies south of the C&O Railway and is bounded by White Sulphur district on the east; by Monroe County on the south, and by the Greenbrier River on the north.

This is an old, old section. First settlement in Irish Corner district was in 1778, the year of the 200-Indian force attack on Fort Donnelly in present day Rader Valley in Greenbrier.



FIRST SETTLEMENT in Irish Corner district was by Erwin Williams, James Crawford, David McClure, and John McDowell. It was near the geographical center of this county sub-division.

Those pioneer families were joined by John Gardner in 1781. In 1785 Samuel Williams, Robert Knox, and David Williams joined the foregoing five groups. Then in 1786 came Samuel Lewis. Shortly thereafter the settlement was augmented by the arrival of Richard Wilson, Isaac Haptonstall, John Morehead, Swift Perry and a number of others whose names have been lost in the shuffle of time.

A little-known frontier post of defense built against possible Indian incursions, was known as Stuarts, or Stewarts, fort and has often been called Fort Spring. There the village of today stands, its name derived from the old fort of frontier times. Fort Spring, on the main line of the C & O Railway, is the only settlement of any size in Irish Corner district.

BREADSTUFF was hard to come by in the period when Irish Corner district began to be peopled. To meet that need, a settler by the name of Longenacre erected the first grist mill in that area in 1812.

In time, the old mill, after rendering fairly good service, was rebuilt and overhauled by Christopher Hake, who built the first saw mill in Irish Corner district in 1820. It was built on the waters of Second Creek, two miles from its mouth.

Its daily production of lumber was about 600 board feet, then considered "something else," as we now say. That sawmill was built on what used to be called the sash saw plan, the best of its day.

THOSE EARLY Irish Corner people went in for education. In 1812, same year the first grist mill was started the first school was taught. The teacher was John McDowell. His school plant consisted of a log cabin which had a hewn puncheon floor. His salary was no great shakes and bus transportation of the "scholars" to McDowell's school was an unheard of matter!

Even in that day of almost 150 years ago there was the feeling that "the mail's gotta go through." Accordingly, the Irish Corner district could boast a post office as early as 1825, when Jams Monroe, last of the Revolutionary War soldiers to be president, was the nation's chief executive.

The office was known as Burdett's post office. Other offices were soon to be established. Three of the earliest were Monroe Draft, Second Creek and Fort Spring.

ALONG WITH their grist mill, saw mill, school house and post office, the Irish Corner settlers had to have a religious set-up. In 1830, Rev. John Spotts, a minister of the Presbyterian persuasion, started a Sunday School. It met in a school house which stood on the

lands of John Nickell.

As late as only 80 years ago, there were but three meeting houses in Irish Corner district. Largest of three congregations of that period was the Presbyterian, over which Rev. James A. Holt was the minister. There was a small Methodist church and one known as "The Old School Baptist."

Two of those churches were housed in frame structures but the home of the third was a hewed log building.

SITUATED AS it is in the area of mineral springs, the Irish Corner could vie with other sections of Greenbrier County and Monroe County with a fountain of curative flow.

On the property of James A. Humphrey there was a white sulphur spring. Its champions declared its water to be more than a match for the storied stream of the spring at White Sulphur Springs.

Only difference between the water of those two springs was that the water from the spring on the land of James A. Humphrey was a lot colder.

Eminent chemists and physicians were loud in their praise of the Humphrey spring, declaring it to be one of the best medicinal springs in that section of the state.

the small society

AFTER
AWHILE



Early Irish Of Greenbrier County--III

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

While "rooting around" in the files of history of Greenbrier County the other day, one of the papers that turned up had to do with Meadow Bluff District.

There most of the area consists of meadow lands bordered with comparatively steep hills, or bluffs, as the pioneers preferred to call them.

Meadow Bluff is the most western of Greenbrier County's 10 magisterial districts. Nicholas County bounds it on the northwest; Williamsburg District on the northeast; Blue Sulphur district on the south, while the hem of Fayette County borders it on the west.

SEVERAL NOTABLE water courses have their source in Meadow Bluff district. Meadow River rises at the foot of Kenneys Knob. Big Clear Creek rises at the base of Big Mountain. From the foot of Hickory Mountain flows Little Clear Creek. Otter creek drains the slopes of Slab Mountain.

It is on the sides of Cross Mountain that Beaver Creek has its rise. Big Sewell Creek flows from Big Sewell Mountain while Little Sewell Creek stems from Little Sewell Mountain. These are tributaries of Meadow River, which pours its flood into the "laughing Gauley."

No county of West Virginia is better watered than Greenbrier. Meadow Bluff district is particularly well moistened by mountain water, which is said to be purified when it runs over nine rocks,

according to an old bit of West Virginia folk lore.

IT WAS A BRAVE lot of pioneers who established the first homes in Meadow Bluff District. First settler was William McClung. He built his log cabin on the banks of Big Clear Creek in 1773, the year of "The Boston Tea Party," which helped precipitate the trouble with Great Britain which culminated in the Revolutionary War.

When William McClung built his cabin in 1773, there was not a store or a grist mill within 100 miles of his isolated home.

There in that log cabin, on December 20, 1777 — the year before Greenbrier County was formed out of Montgomery and Botetourt counties — was born Joseph McClung. This son of William and Abigail McClung was the first white child born on the waters of Meadow River.

WILLIAM MCCLUNG was not destined to live alone in his solitude. There moved in as his neighbors, his brothers, John and Edward McClung.

Then there came John Boggs, John Hickman, Timothy Chapman, Richard Wethered, David Thomson, Daniel Groves, Charles Nevans, John Nevins and James Burns. All of these were actual settlers in that area.

When Lord Dunmore's War got under way to conquer the Indians in 1774 and to take the minds of the Virginians off the impending Revolutionary War, nearly all the men in the Meadow Bluff District area joined Gen. Andrew Lewis' 1100-man army, which defeated the Indians under Cornstalk at Pt. Pleasant.

SPEAKING OF the Battle of Pt. Pleasant, fought on Monday,

Oct. 10, 1774, John Hickman, one of the settlers in Meadow Bluff District, rose early that memorable morning. He and another man named Robertson went up the Ohio River in quest of deer.

When they were about three miles from camp, near the mouth of Old Town Creek, they discovered a large body of Indians just arising from their encampment. The two soldiers were fired upon and John Hickman was killed.

Robertson ran into camp and informed General Lewis that he had seen a body of Indians covering four acres of ground. Then the battle was quickly on and ended in the defeat of the Indian horde by late afternoon.

AFTER THE INDIAN defeat, there followed an effort at establishing peace on the frontier. Cornstalk, Red Hawk and Elinipsico, son of Cornstalk, were murdered at Point Pleasant by some of the frontier "hot heads" while the Indian chiefs were on the peace talks mission.

This enraged the Indians, who determined on an act of revenge. Accordingly, the year following, a band of 200 Indians set out to attack the white settlements in Greenbrier County in the vicinity of Lewisburg.

From Fort Randolph at Pt. Pleasant, two soldiers were sent to warn the Greenbrier settlers that the Indians were coming. They were John Prior and Philip Hammond. They bypassed the Indians on Big Clear Creek within 20 miles of Fort Donnally.

The two men raised the alarm and the fort was all set for the attack, which came May 28, 1778. In that attack, James Burns of the Meadow Bluff pioneers was killed.





Restored Fort Savannah In Greenbrier County

Historical Fort Savannah Now Museum, Restaurant

By Dr. MARGARET BALLARD
LEWISBURG — A small white stone building huddled amidst the equipment of the State Road Commission of West Virginia in Lewisburg, Greenbrier County, covers the Lewis Spring. This spring was discovered by Col. Andrew Lewis and his father while in the area surveying lands in the early 1750s.

When Fort Savannah was built in 1755 to protect the settlers from the Indians it was located near the spring; perhaps the spring was originally within the walls of the fort.

Indian raids and massacres became more frequent and the redmen more daring as the years passed. In 1774 Governor Dunmore of Virginia ordered the formation of two armies to march against the enemy. One army was under the command of Colonel Lewis. It was composed of men from Augusta, Fincastle and other counties in southwest Virginia. They left their first mustering point near the Warm Springs, Bath county, Virginia, and marched to the site of the big spring at Fort Savannah.

The encampment of 1,000 or more men with their equipment on these few acres of ground must have been a stirring sight. The men certainly wore buckskins and moccasins, coonskin caps, and carried their mountain rifles.

They were a rugged breed, fitted to stalk through the wilderness and over the high mountains. While encamped on this location, which was called Camp Union, provisions were gathered from the surrounding countryside: 500 pack horses, 108 beef cattle, 54,000 pounds of flour, etc. Although they were weighted down with so many pounds of provisions and driving the cattle along the scarcely visible trails, or no trails at all, these hardy souls started out to walk the 160 miles to the mouth of the Kanawha at Point Pleasant. They reached their destination without serious incident.

The Indians crossed the Ohio River during the night of Oct. 9, 1774. The Battle of Point Pleasant was fought the next day. The enemy was routed, and the weary men began to count their losses. Eighty-one men did not live to return to the big spring near Fort Savannah. Another 140 men were wounded. Col. John Stuart said: "This battle was, in fact, the beginning of the Revolutionary War, and a presage of the future successes of the colonies in obtaining freedom."

Although the spring continues to pour forth clear water (at the present time it is unsafe to use) the old fort has disappeared. On the ground where it stood is a new log structure that houses the Fort Savannah Inn and its museum of early furniture and general store merchandise.

Also on display is a mouse trap that apparently guillotined the victims, a roller organ, and a fine collection of farm tools. Another room contains miniature display rooms with miniature figures and furnishings, all complete, even to the Christmas tree that Father evidently did not really appreciate.

Fort Savannah is one of more than 60 attractions listed in the Mountaineer Travel Guide.

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Fort Savannah is one of more than 60 attractions listed in the Mountaineer Travel Council

Image-Makers Should Read This One

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

About the classiest volume to reach the library, where this writing is done, is the handsome 80-page work of William Olcott, "The Greenbrier Heritage, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia."

The beautiful book, which is durably bound in green board and encased in an acetate jacket, is in a class with the fabulous Greenbrier, world's most famous hostelry.

Each copy is autographed by E. Truman Wright, in the Quaker's steady, bold, handwriting. He is the genial vice president of The Greenbrier.

THIS BOOK IS the best thing on White Sulphur Springs and the world-famous hotel since



Gov. William MacCorkle published his large volume on the place and its history. MacCorkle, a Southerner of the old school, was a devotee of the noted spa and the history that clings to the place in heavy clusters.

He once told me that he had only 770 copies of his book published and that he gave away so many copies of it that his publishers never made any money from their sales.

It is now an out-of-print book and much sought after as a collector's item.

SOMEDAY, OLCOTT'S book also will be a collector's item. Meantime, it can help change the state's image if enough people see the scores of scenes and portraits—many in rich color. A copy should be in every West Virginia library, public or private.

The traducers of West Virginia most likely will pass up this book on The Greenbrier.

Such writers remind one of the big bird that is found in these parts, the red-headed fowl, which will fly swiftly over magnificent flower gardens and come to rest on a pile of carrion!

Right here in our own area is one of the earth's most wonderful set-ups—The Greenbrier and its vast estate, where every prospect pleases. Olcott sets it into proper perspective in his book. Copies are available at \$4.99 by writing to The Greenbrier at White Sulphur Springs.

HISTORY IS given a delightful ride in the book. One page is called "A Walk Through History." Here is an excerpt:

"Imagine you are back in the year 1867. As the dance begins, the flickering lights and blue shadows cast their spell, and you forget the little flaws in the picture—the damask gown that had, too obviously, been a drapery, and the gray-suited dancer with an empty sleeve. For the season at White Sulphur has begun"

The author pauses in the Civil War era to show The Old White when it was a mecca for southern socialities.

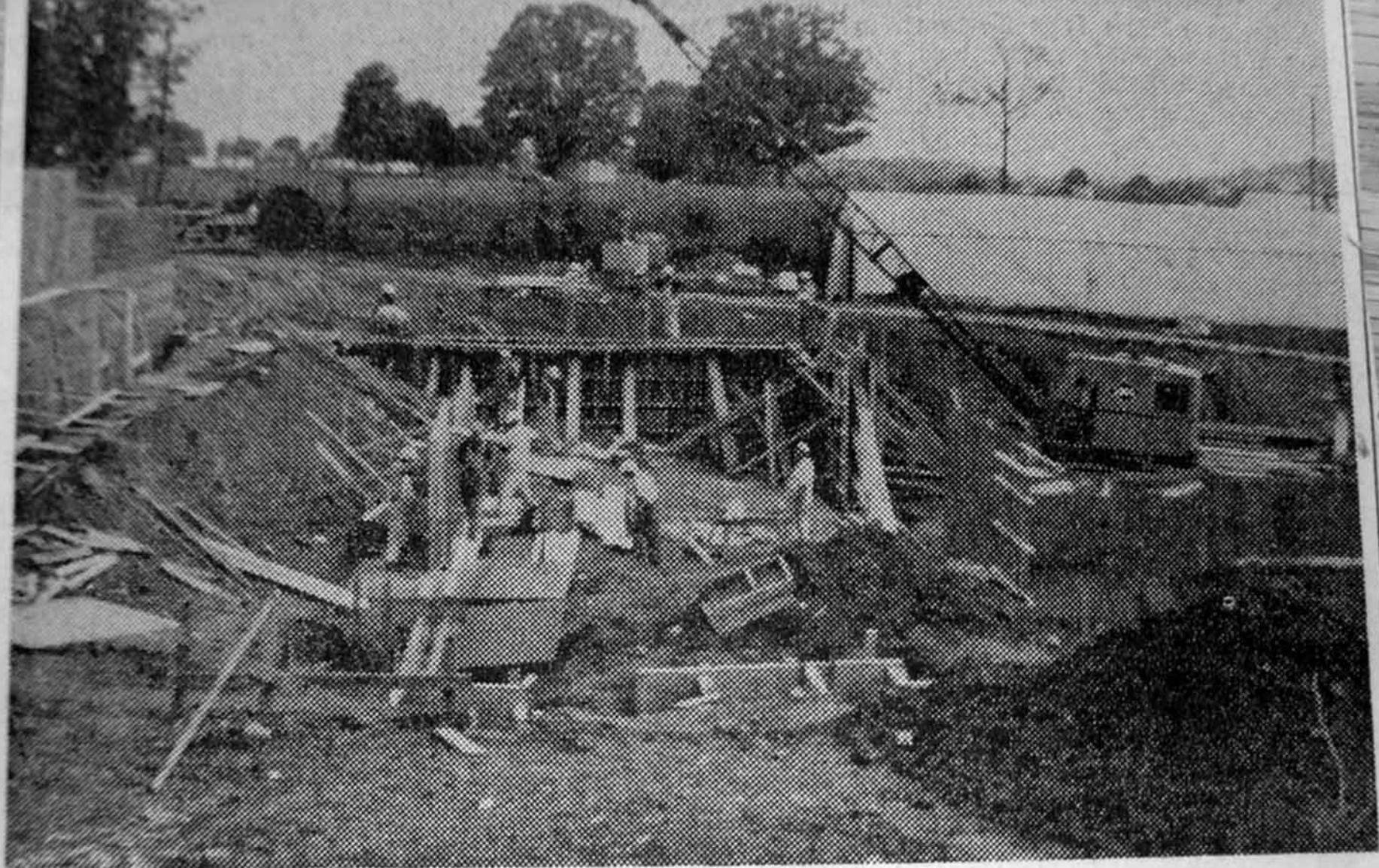
WHEN GEN. David Hunter's Union Army was operating in that sector, he gave orders—later countermanded—to burn The Old White. He was dissuaded by one of his staff, Capt. Henry A. du Pont, on grounds that the building would be useful to the federal troops as a shelter when they came through that sector again.

Olcott quotes Hunter as saying, "Well, I had not thought of that."

In 1867, Lee came to White Sulphur, where the Confederate chieftain had brought Mrs. Lee, an arthritis victim, in the hope that the water and baths would prove beneficial.

In 1868, Lee was there again and posed with a number of the southern generals and other men of national renown. That celebrated photograph appears on page 39 of the Olcott publication.

Many of the nabobs of the centuries, present and past, are pictured on the pages of this volume, along with word sketches. Of course one of them is Sam Snead (on page 57), whose picture is on the cover of TIME magazine.



Greenbrier Nursing Home To Be Completed By Next Summer

Construction on the Greenbrier County Nursing Home at Lewisburg is progressing rapidly as cement footers are being poured by

part of the construction crew while the rest of the crew are laying the brick for the 100 bed unit. The building is scheduled for completion next

summer. This announcement was made by Col. William M. Banks who will serve as administrator of the nursing home.

9-16-68

Rainelle, East Rainelle To Consolidate In 1969

RAINELLE (RHS)

Rainelle and East Rainelle will become one municipality, to be known as Rainelle, in 1969 as a result of a special election held in the adjoining towns Tuesday.

The ballots were counted by members of the Gretna County Court in Louisville and have been declared official. A final order must be entered by Circuit Judge Nickell Kramer.

Two hundred and ninety-four East Rainelle residents favored the consolidation move with 95 opposing. In Rainelle, 217 voters went to the polls with 124 approving the merger and 93 voting against it.

The election date was set by Judge Kramer in July after a petition was circulated among citizens of both towns and signatures of more than 20 per cent of the qualified voters were obtained and submitted to the court prior to July.

Consolidation of the towns represents progress for the area and is a much needed civic improvement to permit growth of the community.

The merger will allow the following improvements: Permit one city government for the entire area instead of two, reduce costs of present duplication of services, Combination of Rainelle and East Rainelle will permit tax valuation of \$6,000,000.

Reduce cost of tax collection since one set of records will be done away with by the state tax commissioner and assessor.

Permit establishment of



Town Sign Will Come Down

uniform street names, numbers streets and improvements, and traffic directional use.

Sewage disposal will be a must in the near future. Costs will be lowered by combination of the towns for one sewage plant.

Expanded city government will give greater attention to

Fire department will function better under combined city government.

Mail delivery under the consolidated post office can be handled more efficiently.

Future annexation of Lilly Park Addition and Osborne Ad-

dition will raise tax base of the area and permit additional people in the consolidated town to assist with municipal problems.

Governmental grants and aid can be secured easier for a larger city than for two small ones.

Certain civic improvement organizations can function on a combined basis to better serve the total area.

Area will become more easily identifiable on maps and in the minds of surrounding area.

New city ordinances can be modernized and zoning can be accomplished to protect present area.

Neither Rainelle nor East Rainelle has any outstanding financial debts that are not provided for in the current budget of the two towns.

An important project can be a chamber of commerce.

By expressed opinion, the hospital project will have a much better chance of becoming a reality under a large community than two smaller.

34 Carat Diamond To Be Shown At Fair

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

One of the commercial exhibitions at the 1968 State Fair at Fairlea will be the noted "Punch" Jones diamond, which weighs 34.46 metric carats or 6.8920 grams.

This uncut stone was found in April, 1928, when William P. ("Punch") Jones and his father, Grover C. Jones, were pitching horse shoes near their home at Peterstown in Monroe County.



The pitched shoes had worn a hole close on to a foot deep at the stakes. When "Punch" pitched one of the horse shoes, it struck an object that rang. He picked it up and remarked with a sort of boyish glee that he allowed as how that he had found himself a diamond.

And he had!

BUT IT WAS about 15 years before the boy knew for sure that the bright object, almost as large as a small walnut, was in reality an actual diamond. On May 5, 1943, "Punch" Jones, then a student at V.P.I., Blacksburg, Va., turned over the find to Dr. R. J. Holden, professor of geology at the famed school, for identification.

After Dr. Holden received the glassy mass of striking brilliance he set about making a careful examination of it. On June 10, less than six weeks later he wrote to Jones, "After a study of this stone it is my opinion that this is a diamond."

"It is the largest one ever found in eastern United States, a third larger than the largest previous find, the Dewey diamond, and one of the largest ever found in North America.

It is of good color and appears to be comparatively free from imperfections. A more detailed discussion is being prepared, which with your approval I will offer for publication."

IN VOLUME 37, No. 4 of the "Bulletin of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute of February, 1944, there was published the story by Dr. Roy J. Holden of "The 'Punch' Jones and Other Appalachian Diamonds."

This 32-page publication is of a very scholarly nature and deals at length with the "Punch" Jones diamond as well as showing various illustrations and pictures of it.

A copy of Dr. Holden's booklet on the subject of this precious stone was secured some years ago for this library and is on the desk as this is being typed.

The "Punch" Jones diamond was on display in the Smithsonian Institute at Washington for a number of years.

WHENCE CAME this huge stone, largest alluvial diamond ever found on this continent? How did it get to Peterstown?

Dr. Holden believes the stone may have had three possible histories.

"It may have been derived from a local igneous rock. It may have come from a conglomerate with no, little, or much transport after release. It might have been transported from its point of origin to point of discovery through a complicated transport so long and so intricate that it is useless to speculate on anything except its late stages.

"The first seems the least probable of the three, because there are no known local igneous rocks and because the surface markings indicate a

long journey."

The geologist was equally uncertain about his other two probable theories as to how that diamond got to Peterstown.

NOW FOR A WORD about the "Dewey Diamond" mentioned above. It was found at Manchester, Virginia, in 1855. Its original weight was 23.75 carats. It was off-color and imperfect.

It had a large flaw on one side and was an octahedron with slightly round faces whereas the "Punch" Jones diamond's form is a hexoctahedron with all 48 faces present.

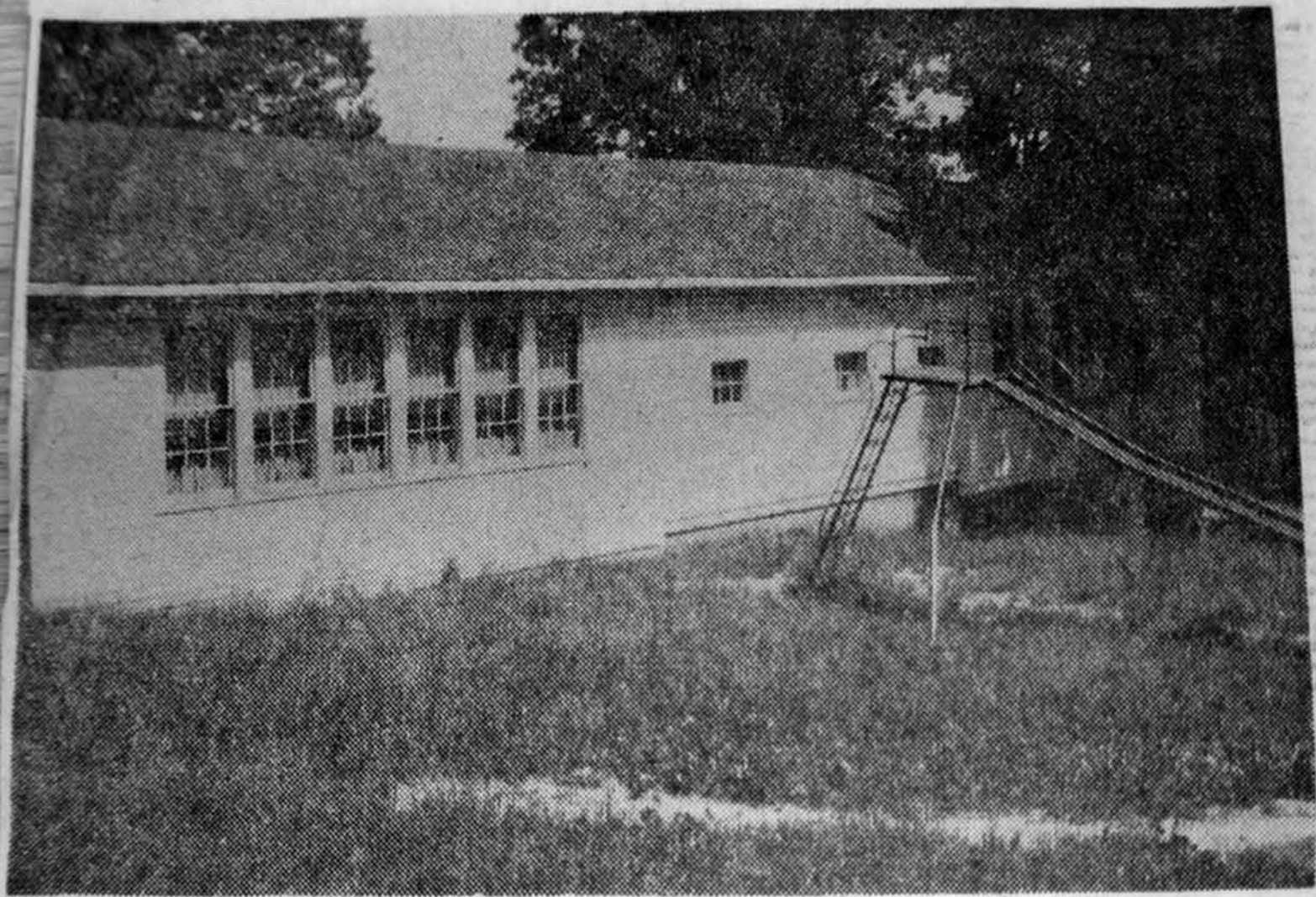
After the Dewey diamond was cut, it weight 11-11-16 carats. It originally sold for \$1,800 but later was valued at only a fraction of what it sold for originally.

In 1913 a diamond was found in Tazewell County, Va., by Frank Brewster, laborer, in a cornfield near Pounding Mill, Va. It was believed that it was dropped by birds in migratory flight.

"PUNCH" JONES never lived to profit from the big diamond he discovered. He went into the army in World War II and was killed in action in the Rhineland campaign of late 1944 and early 1945.

It was near Kaiser-Lautern that he, as a non-commissioned officer, and his lieutenant were out on an armed patrol when they stumbled onto a German machine gun nest which mowed them down.

It was while we were there at Kaiser-Lautern that this occurred but I did learn of the young man's identity at the time. While at Peterstown shortly after my return from the war, a trip was made to Peterstown to call on the ill-fated young soldier's parents.



43-Year-Old Charmco School Closes

This elementary school in Charmco, which started as a one-room school in 1925, has completed its last year of operation. Students will be transported to Crichton, Rupert and East Rainelle elementary schools in the fall.

Al Meadows, the school's principal since 1952, will become principal of Crichton Elementary and Junior High School next year. Other principals who served at the Charmco school were Mrs. Ada Hines, W. T. Shepherd,

Murry Thompson, Mrs. Ollie Hedrick and Elbert Perkins. The building is being used by the Head Start program this summer. Residents of Charmco hope to convert the building into a community center next year.

Lead Mine Lost In Greenbrier County?

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

Back in the days of the Civil War when shortages of munitions occurred in the Confederate Army there was a lead mine in Greenbrier County that was worked for lead for bullets to be used in Confederate muskets.

Legend has it that this mine was in a cave in the heart of one of the mountains near Lewisburg. It was first discovered in the early pioneer days when the backwoodsmen frequently resorted to the vein for bullets for use in their long-barrel, muzzle-loading rifles.



AS THE SOUTH was not a manufacturing center, the blockade established by the United States Navy at the outset of hostilities in 1861 caused a shortage of war supplies. It was at this point that some of the southern sympathizers remembered the existence of the Greenbrier County mine.

The mine was immediately reopened and the ore packed on mules over the mountains to points where it was manufactured into Confederate minie balls and other bullets.

THE MISSILES manufactured from this lead greatly helped in the early days of the fratricidal conflict. But after Appomattox the location of the mine was lost again.

Later when methods of mining were evolved which made profitable the working of small per cent mines, the search began for this lead mine in Greenbrier. However, it was not found.

About 50 years ago it was rumored that there was only one man alive who knew the exact location of the lode. Story was that he did not have the wherewithal to purchase the land whereon the mine is located, so refused to divulge information as to where the lead mine was.

A VEIN OF LEAD was discovered at what was then known as Upland in Summers County early in 1921.

This find recalled the story of the lead mine in the hills near Lewisburg. Since Summers County borders on Greenbrier it was speculated that the Summers vein found by Messrs. Jones and Thompson was but a continuation of the Greenbrier vein.

As this is written from a note made 46 years ago and never added to, the sequel of the Summers County discovery is unknown at this time in 1968.

ANOTHER STORY of 40 years ago concerned a silver mine that was reputedly found in the Gauley Mountain region upstream from Gauley Bridge. It was supposedly high on the mountainside above Gauley River. The discovery was reported made at the time of the Civil War. Those who knew of the vein of precious metal became casualties of the battlefields.

Presumably, the silver mine is still there and awaits a finder!

Frequently someone asks me if I have ever heard of that mine. It used to be mentioned in the Fayette County papers but it has been many a blue moon since it was last mentioned.

Perhaps some rover with a sensitive metal detector, might be lucky enough to come upon

this silver mine and make himself rich. In these days when silver coins are vanishing, a silver mine might become a paying proposition.

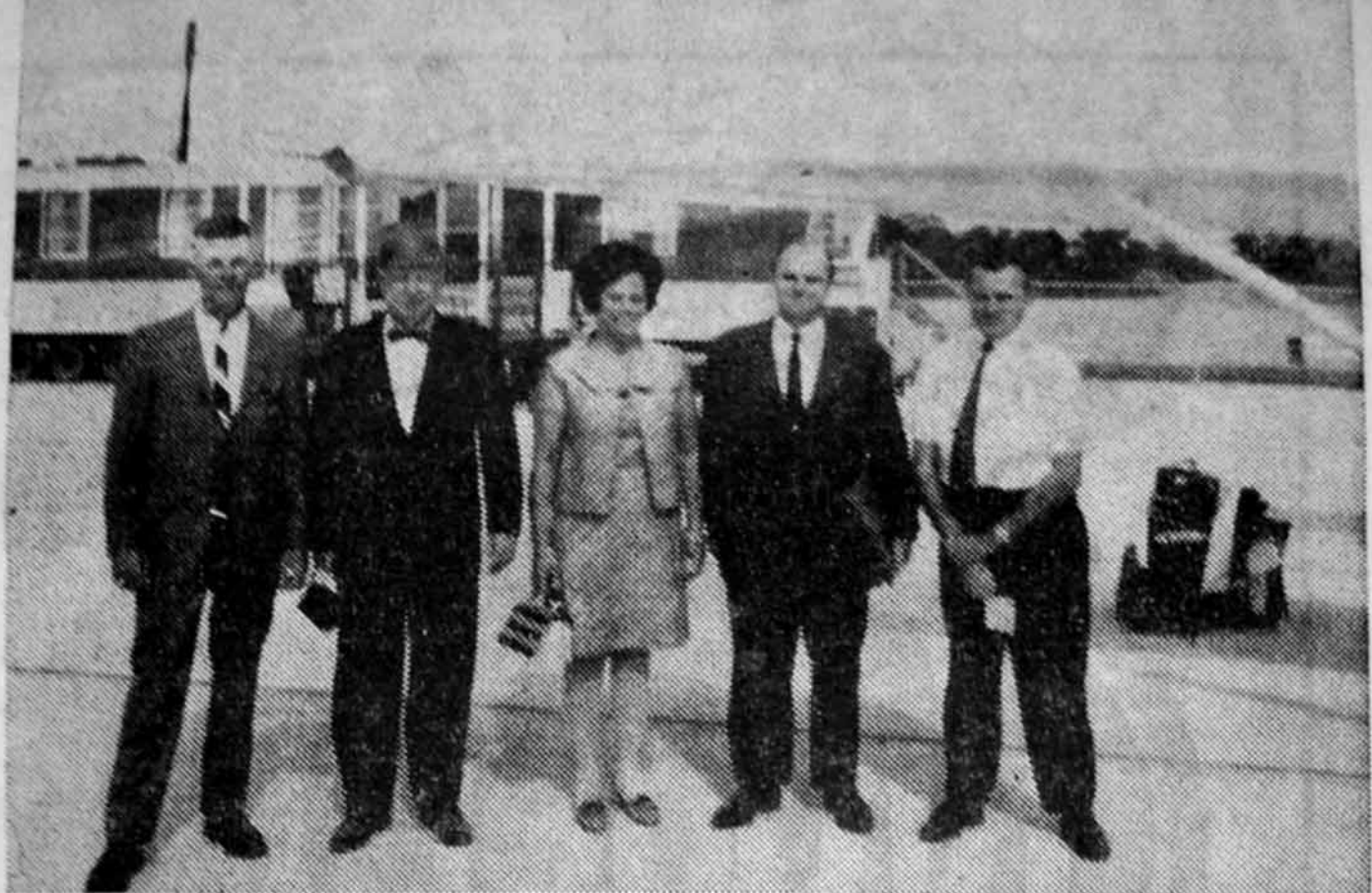
SPEAKING OF vanishing American things, consider the old-time wooden nail keg. Back in the days before nails were shipped in from Japan and other nations, nails made in this country were shipped to hardware dealers in small wooden kegs. Staves in the wooden kegs were made of oak timber and left rough, as a general rule.

Nowadays a wooden nail keg is a curiosity. With the coming of heavy cardboard nails are packed and shipped in paper boxes. Thus the wooden nail keg has become an antique. It is occasionally found on sale in antique stores among bizarre articles of past generations. People buy the wooden nail kegs and cover them with basted cotton and padding now. Then they are used as seats.

Recently I saw a college student who is working on a master's degree using one of those wooden nail kegs as a typewriter desk! It was about the right height for the rather short girl.

HOW OFTEN IS a wooden box of any kind found nowadays? Corrugated cardboard—thanks to Thomas Jefferson for coming up with the idea of deriving added strength from corrugation of metal and paper—has supplanted the use of wood for boxes.

They used to make wooden churns for the family farm. But who ever saw, or has a wooden churn in the 20th Century? They are prized as collectors items and rarely found any more.



Pictured above are part of a delegation that visited the Greenbrier Valley Airport at Maxwelton last week in reference to establishing commercial airline service at the Airport for five counties in West Virginia and Alleghany County in Virginia. Left to right are: Edgar Lewis Smith, prosecuting attorney; Sol Coker, Mrs. Coker, Bob Olliver, all of Washington, D. C., and C. W. (Bill) Lewis, Jr., president of the County Court.

These men were surveying the possibilities of Airline Service at the Airport and whether or not the service would be feasible. They conferred with business men and citizens of the area and officials of Covington, Va., Alderson and other towns.

On page six of this weeks' Independent you will find a form to be filled out for Airline Service, have you filled yours out? If not, please do so at once as it is most important to have a substantial number of requests for the service before national airlines will give it consideration.

Many citizens have signified their desire for Airline Service verbally, but have failed to take time and send in the completed form. Take time now and mail your request to The Greenbrier Valley Airport, Box 306, Lewisburg, W. Va., or if you need assistance call Col. John Gwinn, Airport Manager, at 645-3961.

July 1968



Shown at the Oak Terrace in Lewisburg last night are the owners and promoters of "The World," a fabulous new tourist attraction which will open north of Lewisburg next spring. The group are (from left): Paul Modjeska of New York, designer and builder; Henry F. Lind- of Lewisburg, owner of the cavern, formerly known as "Grapevine Cave," who has signed a 10-year lease; Mrs. Lindsay; Justin Resnick of New York, publicity expert, and Clifford N. man of New York state, one of the nation's leading speleologists who already operates two commercialized caverns in New York. It is estimated the new venture will bring \$20,000 per into the area in new tourist money. (DAILY NEWS photo)

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'The Lost World' to Open Near Lewisburg

A group of tourist attraction promoters from New York state have secured a 50-year lease on the property of Henry F. Lindsay about two miles north of Lewisburg on the Fairview Road, and by next spring will open one of the most spectacular tourist attractions in West Virginia.

It will be an underground wonderland advertised as "The Lost World." For years the cavern has been known locally and in cave survey books as "Grapevine Cave," but the promoters decided this name would not lend itself well to a highly-advertised tourist attraction.

The new promoters are so "excited about the new venture" that they held a dinner last night at the Oak Terrace in Lewisburg to explain their plans to city and county officials, press and radio. They estimate the attraction could add about \$20,000 per week to the economy of the area.

Mr. Lindsay introduced the group, starting with Clifford N. Forman of Pine Bush, N. Y., who operates two commercialized caverns in New York and is recognized as one of the nation's leading speleologists. He is believed to hold the North American record in vertical descent into a cave. He once went 1810 feet down into a cavern in Mexico.

At present the only opening into "The Lost World" is through a sink hole at the top of a hill with a vertical drop of 110 feet. Surveys have shown that a ground-level entrance can be made by digging a tunnel 150 feet to open into the first spectacular room, which he said is large enough for a football field. He described many other attractions in the cavern, including the fossilized bones of a 10-ft. bear, which are now in Carnegie Museum but will be carefully re-created as the original pre-historic animal stood.

The rooms and passages of the cavern are

about 80 feet high and vary from 50 to 150 feet wide. They are filled with astounding stalactite and stalagmite formations of many beautiful colors. A small stream flows through part of the cave.

There will be no guided tours through the cave, Mr. Forman said. Instead, the more modern method of permitting visitors to go at will and remain as long as they wish. The pathways will be smooth, wide and perfectly safe. Interesting features will be lighted in beautiful colors and electronic eyes will be installed to prevent people from straying off the pathways and damaging the formations.

"Caves are more afraid of people than people are of caves," he said. If an electric beam is broken an automatic warning device will immediately instruct the offender, in a calm voice, to return to the path. Vandals can do much damage to a cave by taking souvenirs.

About 7,000,000 people in the U. S. go underground each year to visit about 200 commercialized caverns. "The Lost World" will be one of the best in the nation, Mr. Forman predicted.

Justin Resnick, whose father owns one of the world's most valuable collections of antique luxury automobiles near New York City, will handle publicity for "The Lost World." He described plans for a gift shop, brochures and an intensive advertising program to draw tourists off of U. S. 60, U. S. 219 and the new I-64 now under construction in that area. Financing of the new venture has already been taken care of, he said. The group is greatly impressed with the Greenbrier area and its possibilities for the future, he added.

Other associates in the venture are Paul Modjeska, designer and builder, and Fred Grau, who was not in town for the dinner last night.

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July, 1968

Virginia DAILY NEWS, Monday, July 15, 1968

Search For Identity Of Van

BUCKWILLER

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Meanwhile, Charles O. Hand-
ley, Jr. whose parents had re-
cently retired to Lewisburg,
had become interested in help-

Search For Identity

By GRACE TUCKWILLER

Things have been rather quiet and peaceful out Richlands way this spring so perhaps I shouldn't bring the subject up. It might break the spell.

On the other hand, so many of you seemed interested in reading about and even in seeing Richlands famous infamous captured critters, more commonly known as "the Varmints," that I thought perhaps you'd like to know that the subject is not dead although the varmints are.

Dr. Barbara Lawrence of Harvard University, who for years has been studying a new species of animals called "canid" which means it's related to dogs, wolves and coyotes, has become interested in the skulls, photos and information of our Greenbrier varmints.

First, a brief review: from the summer of 1965 until February 13, 1967 when Sam Jarrett trapped and shot the first

were offered. Coyote. Red Wolf. Sus seemed to no one was sure.

Meanwhile, C. H. Handley, Jr. whose recently retired had become interested in the subject is Curator in Charge of Mammals of the Smithsonian Institution. He was one of the one trapped to Dr. Barbara Lawrence of the Museum of Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Late this spring C. H. Handley, Sr. was one of some correspondence between Charles, Jr. and Barbara Lawrence. Copied in the file.

April 29, from C. H. Handley, Jr. to his Dad, I am enclosing additional correspondence we have had with the Harvard University. The canids that were disturbing stock in the Greenbrier area. I would like very

one, unidentified predators had killed more than 200 sheep in the Richlands area. Late spring to mid-summer saw more than 100 more killed by an unusual method of kill. In all of the sheep killed there was no evidence that they had moved or kicked at all. They were killed instantly with one grab under the ear and only a little of the meat eaten.

On July 24, Roy Scott of Lewisburg, shot a pup of the variety. Later four pups were shot by Hadley Withrow, Jim Holiday, Joe Jarrett and Jarrett's nephew.

On December 10, Okey Crone and Jess Jones discovered an old one trapped in a blind set beaver snare which had been set by Paul "Jake" Hilleary on the E. A. Tuckwiller farm. Hilleary, a trapper for the State Department of Natural Resources, had been called in on the cast last summer. He spent twenty-two days in the area on his first visit and ten days

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later. The Department called off official trapping when word came back from Washington that the head of the first varmint killed was "just a dog."

Hilleary disagreed with the verdict. So did Dr. James F. Mann, a local veterinarian, and most of the farmers and sportsmen who had become interested, so Hilleary began trapping in his free time. A few days after the one was trapped in December, another one was trapped which had different color fur and slightly different physical features, but the same viciousness.

The animals were kept in a cage for a while in the shop at E. A. Tuckwiller, Jr.'s farm and for almost a week hundreds of cars and trucks were parked along the driveway and road as men, women and children came to look at them.

Many different identifications

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LER were offered. Dog. Wild dog. Coyote. Red Wolf. The consensus seemed to be coyote, but no one was sure.

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Meanwhile, Charles O. Handley, Jr. whose parents had recently retired to Lewisburg, had become interested in helping with the identification. He is Curator in Charge, Division of Mammals of the Smithsonian Institution. He sent the skull of the one trapped by Hilleary to Dr. Barbara Lawrence at the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

Late this spring, Charles Handley, Sr. received copies of some correspondence between Charles, Jr. and Dr. Lawrence. Copied in part, they said:

April 29, from Charles Handley, Jr. to his father. "Dear Dad, I am enclosing some addi-

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Handley, Sr. received copies of some correspondence between Charles, Jr. and Dr. Lawrence. Copied in part, they said: April 29, from Charles Handley, Jr. to his father. "Dear Dad, I am enclosing some additional correspondence that I have had with Dr. Lawrence at Harvard University regarding the canids that have been disturbing stockmen in the Lewisburg area. I am sure that she would like very much to see additional pictures of the specimens that have been killed other than the one of which I got the skull. If you could secure as many pictures as possible of as many individual animals as possible and send them directly to Dr. Lawrence. . . additional skulls even of the dog-like individuals if any more are secured."

April 4th letter from Dr. Lawrence to Charles Handley, Jr. "canis skull

to Dr. Lawrence... additional skulls even of the dog-like individuals if any more are secured."

April 4th letter from Dr. Lawrence to Charles Handley, Jr. "... canis skull ... having set up a technique for analyzing these what's its, it seemed stupid not to apply it...

"The beast is very close indeed to certain specimens from New England both by eye and by multiple character analysis. Our paper on the N.E. Canis is just about completed, waiting only on numerical proof that it is highly variable ...As of now, we feel that what we have in New England is predominantly coyote, that any introduction of dog and/or wolf genes probably is not a local and frequently recurring phenomenon but happened as the coyote population was spreading

sample of Minnesota coyotes show a shift from coyoteness towards both dog and wolf which is carried to an even greater extreme in our local population. For various reasons, which would take too long to spell out here, we feel that this is more likely an expression of ancient hybridization than of rapid evolution of the coyotes to fit a new niche. A few specimens from Illinois and Michigan and Canada fit into this picture. THE WEST VIRGINIA BEAST suggests that this eastward migration of an atypical, but predominantly, coyote animal is occurring on a rather wide front. The lower Mississippi valley canids surely need attention and behavioral studies . . .

"I also sent the photos and a copy of your letter...to the Silvers, who have done the be-

Of Varmints Goes On On

Wild dog.
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havior studies for my project.
Following are their comments:
"Size and profile seem about
right for a wild specimen. We
don't see anything 'peculiar'
about the ears. They are very
mobile, and apparently capable
of assuming many different po-
sitions -- a characteristic of
our beasts. There are so many
things that mask the natural
appearance of the living, healthy
animal that without actual
examination we hesitate to say,
however, that there could not
be some dog in it. We think
that this is one case where
internal characters would be
of more value for identification.
We believe that it is related
to our species, if not pure.

"Position of ears in all ex-
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print (with dog) that shows them
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characteristic of our canids."

April 17, from Handley to
Dr. Lawrence. "...letter com-
menting on the West Virginia
Canis skull ... 'isolated phe-
nomenon and not part of a
population' ... fact lends sup-
port to the idea that the ani-
mal might have been caged at
one time, and, if so, might
have been transported to the
area where it was found .."

April 23, from Dr. Lawrence
to Handley, Jr. "...I think it
quite possible that the teeth
were broken and subsequently
worn down and the animal might
well have been kept in captivity
for a while. I am interested in
the pups and their doglike ex-
terior appearance as well as
their uniformity. F-1 hybrids of

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both coyote and our unknowns crossed with dogs had both of these characteristics ..."

And so we have two new names. WEST VIRGINIA BEAST and UNKNOWNNS which is where we started. Meanwhile, a recent headline in a Charleston paper said, "Roane (Co.) Varmint Hunt Slated After Killing of Six Lambs" and the story went on to tell about the "unusual method of kill." (Greenbrier's total killed was between 500 and 600.)

A few weeks ago two men at different times told E. A. Tuckwiller, Jr. "You'd better check your sheep. I just saw a varmint."

So he is checking and so far his sheep are all right.

But there was this big one which they thought they had killed but it kept going up into Weaver's Knob and no one ever found it ...

Fossils Found Along Mountainsides

By DR. MARGARE BALLARD
Mountaineer Travel Council

Fossils are found in the shale along the mountainsides, along the river banks and along overhanging cliffs, in the "dumps" and the separating ledges of coal mines. They are the remains of little animals and plants that lived and flourished

so many millions of years ago in the land we now call West Virginia.

Leaves and twigs growing beside the streams or in the swamps fell into the water and settled into the soil at the bottom. The small animals, especially marine animals, were covered with the soil. More soil washed on top of them and caused pressure upon them. The little animals and plants were compressed and flattened. Finally with so much pressure the water and air was pressed out and only a thin film of carbonaceous material was left. The surrounding material became rock and the plant or animal was encased in hard layers of stone. When the rock is split apart we find the "fossil," for such the animal or plant has become, showing a compression on one side of the stone and an impression on the opposite side. This is the most common type of preservation of prehistoric life in West Virginia.

Fossils may be defined as: Any remains, impression, or trace of an animal or plant of a former geological age. We restrict the use of the word to "remains" at least as old as the "ice age" or about one million years.

Where does one go to find fossils in southern West Virginia? One of the best places is around coal mines, although with modern methods of mining, it is becoming more difficult to search there. Look through the "dumps" of underground mines or among the shale pushed aside in surface mining. Do not enter an abandoned mine alone. Search the material on the outside.

Other places to search are along the cliffs that follow the streams. Cliffs along the Greenbrier River are especially productive. Look also in the shale on the mountains along the highways. Peter's Mountain shale offers fossils of unusual perfection. It is said that fossils occur "in patches."

West Virginia Geological Survey published an extensive report by county.

ple, in Beaver Pond District (Mercer County) marine fossils may be found near the Norfolk and Western Railway cut west of Nemours Station and extending westward; and in Plymouth District, starting at the eastern edge of Athens near Concord College eastward down the highway to Laurel Creek one mile east of Athens. In Red Sulphur District (Monroe County) they may be found starting at road fork one and one-half miles northward from Ballard and traversing northward along highway to Red Sulphur Springs. Marine fossils are found in Greenbrier County along Howard's Creek and the Greenbrier River near Caldwell. Green Sulphur District (Summers County) starting at the top of Big Sewell Mountain one mile southeast of the old Mountain View Schoolhouse then north-westward to the schoolhouse, is the last fossil area.

For the beginning fossil collector, a valuable book is "Plant Fossils of West Virginia," published by West Virginia Geological and Economic Survey, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia. This book is still in print and is of great help, in searching, marking, and storing fossils.

Lewisburg Church Named For Missionary

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

Albert T. Shuck of 1011 English Ave., Louisville, passed through Lewisburg the other day and had his attention attracted to the columned Shuck Memorial Baptist Church on the town's main thoroughfare.

He appealed to the Rev. Norman Harless, pastor of that congregation, for information "on the Shuck that the church was named for," as he states in his letter to me of March 20.

According to the Louisville man, Harless told him that "this Shuck was the first missionary to China, in 1836, and that Dr. Donnelly, of Oak Hill, W. Va., could fill you in on the details about that man."

What the Lewisburg preacher did is technically known as "passing the buck."



tion sermon and wondered if I might not do it! He was told that if he could not get any one of those he wanted that I wouldn't mind helping him out.

It was on a hot Sunday in August, in the year 1930 or 1931, when the dedication address was delivered, using the text uttered by Jacob when he dreamed that night at Bethel when he saw the heavenly stairway: "This is the house of God". But to the story of the man for whom the church at Lewisburg is named.

REV. J. LEWIS SHUCK was born in Alexandria, Va., Sept. 4, 1812. In 1835 he was ordained and went at once to China as a missionary, having been sent by the Triennial Convention. In 1837 he baptized his first convert at Macao.

In 1840 the agent from whom he received his support failed. Shuck removed thereupon to Hong Kong and supported himself by editing a paper, but did not suspend his work as a missionary. In 1843 the church he organized had 26 members. In 1843 Shuck's wife died and in 1845 he returned to the United States to make provision for his children.

In 1846 he went back to Shanghai, under the patronage of the Southern Baptist Convention, taking his second wife with him.

IN 1853 SHUCK returned to the U. S., having lost his second wife. In 1854 he was sent as a missionary to the Chinese in California, taking with him his third wife.

In California he spent seven years, discharging the double duties of missionary and pastor of Sacramento Baptist Church. As far as is known, he organized the first Chinese church of any denomination on the continent.

Having spent a quarter of a century laboring among the Chinese, Shuck returned to Barnwell Court House, S. C., in 1861 where he spent the remainder of his life, preaching

for the surrounding churches. In 1863 he died in the 51st year of his life. He had a son, the Rev. L. H. Shuck who was long the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Charleston, S. C.

THAT SON OF the first missionary to China was born at Singapore on the Malay Peninsula while his parents were en route to China in 1836. After the death of his mother in 1844 he was sent back to his grandfather, Rev. Addison Hall, in Virginia and prepared for college.

He graduated at Wake Forest College in North Carolina from which he received the degrees of A. B., A. M., and D. D. After his graduation this man spent a year as professor in the Oxford Female College in North Carolina and then became principal of the Beulah Male Institute in that same state.

After the death of his father in 1863, the son took over the pastorate of the churches which his father held at the time he died. In 1869 he assumed the pastorate of the noted First Baptist Church, Charleston, S. C., where he did the work of his life. Shuck Memorial Baptist Church at Lewisburg has had an up-hill pull because the Presbyterians and the Methodists have long had the large works there.

the small society



Magnate Conned Into Buying Greenbrier

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

When in need of a lift of morale, a hurried trip is always made to the world famous Greenbrier Hotel for a meal and a stroll under the stately trees which grace the spacious grounds at White Sulphur Springs.

There the spirit of the late ex-Governor William A. MacCorkle seems to brood over the historic hostelry because its rejuvenation a generation ago is solely his due.

He and Edwin Hawley, in conjunction with Frank B. Enslow, a celebrated corporation lawyer, were the ones who went about the purchasing and rebuilding shortly after the turn of the present century. This trio of giants became interested in the rebirth of the Old White and the restoration of its former glories. Enslow had an Old South background and told MacCorkle he believed that Edwin Hawley, who had but recently purchased the C & O road and Bucking Valley and linked these lines up with the C & O of In-

diana, thus connecting the east up with the west and the Great Lakes, could be interested in buying the Old White.

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, wrote the ex-Governor in his "recollections of Fifty Years," had played a wonderful part in the social and political economy of the Old South. It had been particularly the playground and the home of southern people, and had been for a long while the real capital of the nation.

There presidents had made their summer homes. All the old families came and for six months of the year the White Sulphur was their home.

They made no mere visit as they do today, but an extended stay, with their horses and carriages, their manservants, their maids and cooks, and all the entourage of the baronial home.

There were assembled the South's youth and beauty, the manhood and womanhood, with their smiles and joys and tears, their engagements and marriages, and there met in conference for many years the men who really ruled the South, and, as a matter of fact, the nation.

There were the women of the South, the necromancy of whose smiles governed the land, and there, when the conflict was lost, assembled the men whose heart's work was the making of the grant to grow on the desolate battlefields, and whose hands were erecting the broken porticoes and lifting the fallen pillars of their home land.

It was a place such as has never before been seen in this country, and its like will never again be witnessed.

BUT EDWIN HAWLEY had no sentiment for the South; he was interested only in making money. It mattered but little to him that the Old White was on its way to where the woodbine twined. Its decaying buildings, its life-giving springs, the majestic trees, the transparency of the brilliant Greenbrier air, the

witchery of that storied land's sunlight, and the memories of its faded glory was so much stuff to the impassive railroad magnate.

MacCorkle set the stage, with proper props, to get Hawley to buy and build back the Old White.

Hawley was given a dinner and 60 guests were present. It was in the summertime, with the cool nights and bright moonlight and the perfume of flowers, and the whippoorwills singing all the night long. Present were many of the beautiful women and courtly men of the South.

A SPLENDID Southern dinner it was — a dinner that was a gourmet's dream. Enslow sat at the foot of the table, MacCorkle sat at the head of the table with a Southern beauty at his side. By Hawley was a gorgeous creature on one side and a marvelous white haired matron of the old days on the other side, a woman who could speak in golden words of the departed glories of the Old White.

Enslow was toasted with a glass of bubbling champagne as the only stranger in the party. Toastmaster of "Sunrise" at Charleston spoke of the wonders of our Southern civilization and of the glamour and smiles and tears which the Old White had seen for a hundred years.

Everyone, beautiful women and gracious men, rose and clinked their glasses and turned to the Northern man with his eyes of steel. He alone remained seated, but was so touched by the moving tribute that he turned to Enslow and said, "I believe that I will buy this place and turn it over to the C & O and rebuild it."

He did. Phoenix-like, the Old White started back on its way to fame and today is earth's most famous spa. Earth has nothing finer than the Old White, now The Greenbrier, with the magnificent setting of two thousand acres.



The Greenbrier Gets Top Rating

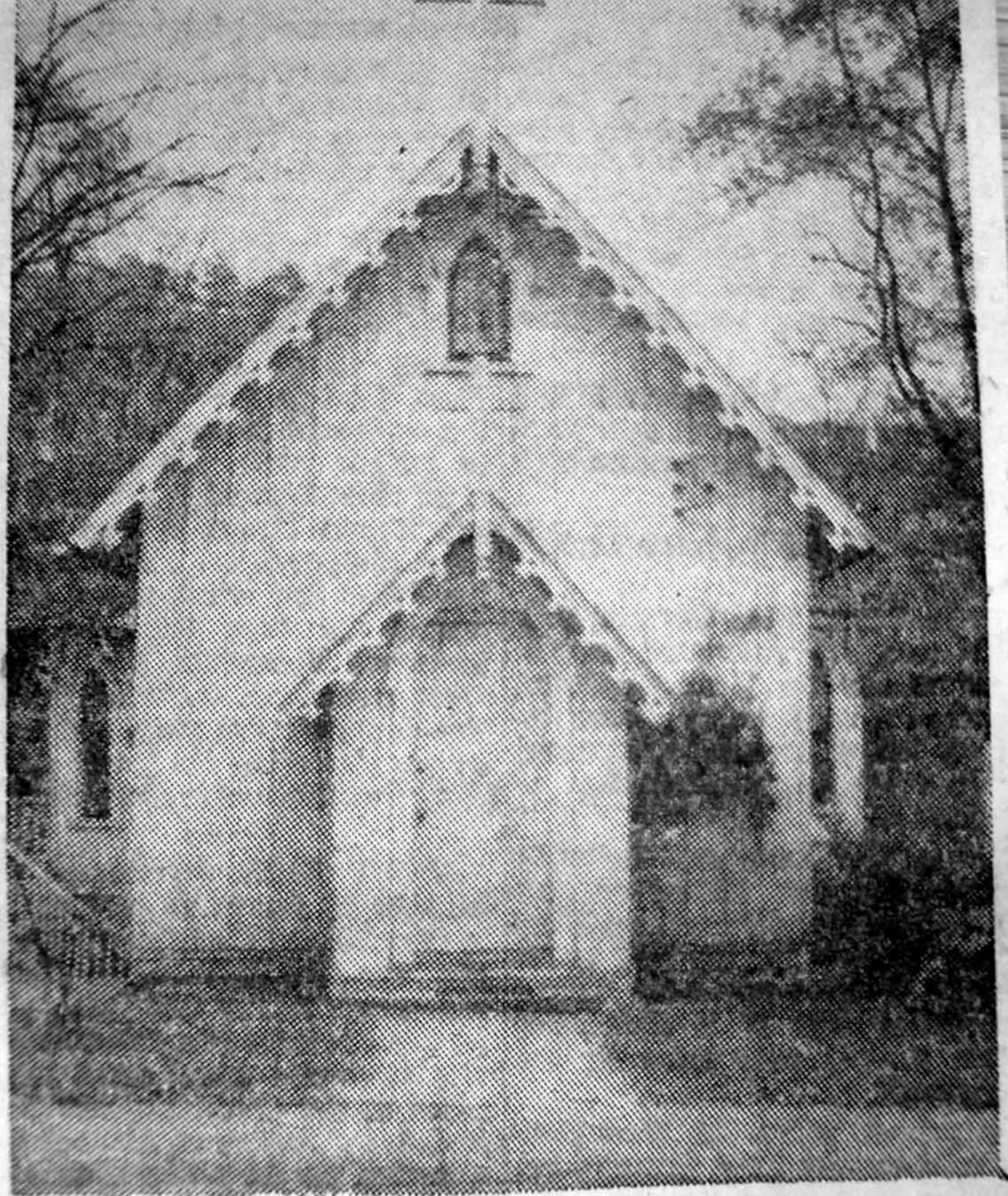
WHITE SULPHUR — The Greenbrier, mountain resort in White Sulphur Springs, once again has received the five-star rating of the Mobil Travel Guide and is listed in the 10th edition of the country's best-selling travel guidebook.

Over 23,000 restaurants, resorts, hotels and motels are listed and rated on a one to five-star basis in the seven-volume Travel Guide which will be available at Mobil stations and bookstores this month.

A special feature of the 1968 Mobil Travel Guide is a letter code system which tells the reader at a glance what major credit cards are accepted by the lodging and dining facilities.

Each of the seven regional editions gives valuable information on local history, sightseeing, amusements, sports and recreation facilities. They also include regional road atlases and detailed maps of major cities and special auto-tour sightseeing routes.

E. Truman Wright, vice president and managing director of the mountain resort, will accept the award for The Greenbrier at a dinner presentation to be held at the Forum of the Twelve Caesars in New York City May 27.



'One Of Prettiest'

Ronceverte's Church of the Incarnation has been called "one of the prettiest churches in Greenbrier County." The

Episcopal structure is constructed of wood and is painted white. It has a single aisle.



Old Greenbrier Baptist Church

Church Will Mark 177th Anniversary

ALDERSON, Nov. 21 (RNS) — The Old Greenbrier Baptist Church will observe the 177th anniversary of its founding Sunday. It was organized Nov. 24, 1781, by Elder John Alderson, who in 1777 crossed the Allegheny Mountains and settled in the Greenbrier Valley at what is now Alderson.

It was the first church of any denomination to be established west of the Allegheny Mountains in this section. It is the oldest Baptist Church in the state with complete written records from the time of its organization.

The church began its ministry with 12 charter members, John, Thomas, and Mary Alderson, John Kippers, John Sheppard, John, Katherine, Joseph, and Lucy Skaggs, Bailey, Ann, and James Wood, according to a list published in the original minutes of the church.

Some of these same last names are recorded on the church roll today which also bears many names of members who are direct descendants of the original 12.

The birthday anniversary of the church will be marked by two special services Sunday. The pastor, Dr. J. Maurice Trimmer, will preach at the morning service on the subject, "Founded on Fundamentals." At the evening service

Dr. Lynn C. Dickerson, pastor of the Harrisonburg Baptist Church at Harrisonburg, Va., will be guest speaker. Dr. Dickerson, who was pastor of the local church from 1934-38, will use as his subject, "Reminiscences of my Years in Alderson."

Dr. Dickerson and the Rev. Randolph F. Johnson of the Oak Hill Baptist Church are the only living former pastors.

A special feature of the anniversary observance Sunday will be the presentation of "birthday gifts" to the church for the new parsonage fund. The fund started in January, 1957, has now reached the sum of \$9,560. The goal for this year's anniversary offering is the same amount, as was given on the 176th anniversary, \$3,604.21.

Don Bryant is chairman of the new parsonage fund committee which includes Mrs. Sarah Wood, Mrs. Harry Scott, George Utterback, Harold Lemons, Mrs. Orr Huffman, and L. C. Spence.

H. A. Dupont Saved Greenbrier From Being Burned Down In 1964

By KYLE McCORMICK
Director, W. Va. Dept of
Archives and History

The Greenbrier Hotel at White Sulphur Springs, pride of West Virginia, may have been saved for all time through the efforts of Col. H. A. Dupont of the Federal Army in 1864.

In later years, Dupont became vice-president of the Dupont chemical empire, and was elected U. S. Senator from Delaware. He won a Congressional Medal of Honor in the Civil War.

The Federal Army, under the command of General David Hunter, was resting at White Sulphur Springs for two days in June, 1864, following the disastrous battle of Lynchburg in which the Federals were defeated.

Colonel Dupont learned that General Hunter planned to burn the immense hotel of colonial architecture and its cottages upon leaving. Dupont thought that this was in violation of the laws of civilized warfare. But he sought to prevent the burning in a different way.

Approaching General Hunter, he said: "General, I hear you intend to burn the building when we leave."

He replied: "Yes, I intend to burn them."

"Don't you think, General, that burning of these structures will be a military mistake?"

"What do you mean by that inquiry?"

Looking him squarely in the

eyes, said the Colonel: "I mean this, General, if we have later to occupy and hold this country, White Sulphur Springs will be the natural point for our principal station, as so many roads converge here. Such being the case, the buildings as they stand would furnish excellent winter quarters for at least a brigade of troops."

"Well, I had never thought of that!"

And so the order was changed—and so the resort exists today. Had it been burnt to the ground, it is doubtful whether it would have been restored.

General Hunter had spent two and one-half days at Lexington Va., en route to Lynchburg and this delay gave the Confederates time to get there ahead of him and save the city. He spent this time burning the barracks of Virginia Military Institute, all the buildings and residences, plus the home of Governor Letcher. While the burning of the barracks was justified under the laws of war, the other buildings were not.

This led to the burning of Chambersburg, Pa., in retaliation, the Confederate Troops being commanded by Brigadier General John McCausland, Point Pleasant.

The Federal Army continued on to Charleston over Route 60 from White Sulphur Springs, thence to Parkersburg where it boarded Baltimore and Ohio trains to Washington.

There is a tradition that the visit of Colonel Dupont in the Kanawha Valley led to the build-

Traveling Bible Instructor Teaches Greenbrier Pupils

LEWISBURG, Nov. 21 (RNS) -- Miss Carlisle Hoyt, Bible teacher in the White Sulphur Springs and Lewisburg areas, is instructing approximately 500 students each week during this school semester. The students range from first graders to high school seniors.

Miss Hoyt does not have her classes supported by returns from public tax, as do other teachers, but she fills somewhat the same schools and class schedules as other teachers. She is considered as a "traveling" teacher.

The schedule Miss Hoyt has this semester finds her teaching 3-6 grades in Maxwelton; 3-4 grades in Caldwell; 5-6 grades in the White Sulphur Springs elementary school; 1-3 and 5-7 in the Bethune elementary; seventh grade in White Sulphur high; 3-6 grades in Bolling elementary, Lewisburg; 7-10 grades at Bolling High; 5-6 grades at Lewisburg elementary and the twelfth grade at Lewisburg high. Her schedule this year includes one new group, at Bethune elementary (1-3), and one age level at Caldwell (3-4).

This is Miss Hoyt's fourth year of teaching under the sponsorship of the Eastern Greenbrier Council of Churches. Participating churches include Clifton Presbyterian, Maxwelton; First Presbyterian, White Sulphur Springs; Emanuel Methodist, White Sulphur; First Baptist, White Sulphur; Shuck Memorial Baptist, Lewisburg; Old Stone Presbyterian, Lewisburg;

Mount Tabor Baptist, Lewisburg; Lewisburg Methodist; John Wesley Methodist, Lewisburg; St. Thomas Episcopal, White Sulphur, and St. James Methodist, White Sulphur.

They are regular contributors to the program with the following chapels contributing as their means permit: Muddy Creek Mountain, Edgewood, Lewis and Bethel, the latter three being from Clifton Presbyterian. Muddy Creek Chapel with Old Stone in Lewisburg.

One of the special teaching aids being used by Miss Hoyt in this year's classes is an "attendance window" showing church and Sunday school attendance by the individual child. Each child is given a blank church window at the beginning of the school year, and each Sunday the child attends Sunday School they fill in in color one half of the blank for that Sunday. If the child also attends a church service on that particular Sunday they fill in the entire blank in color. Each Sunday's blank calls for a different color, so that by the end of the school year in May the child will have a full church window in color if attendance has been maintained at Sunday school and church.

Miss Hoyt's program has been successful in the various schools she contacts, and this year's "attendance window" is providing an interesting study of the church habits of the individual child she has contact with during the regular school week.

Thoughts About Blue Sulphur Springs

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

Comes a beautiful letter from Mrs. Agnes M. Kitchen, 1936 Coburn Avenue, Ashland, Kentucky, saying that she and her husband very much liked the story about old Blue Sulphur Springs which this column carried once upon a time some moons ago. Mrs. Kitchen states that reading the story of the once celebrated spa in Greenbrier County caused her to turn back the hands on the clock of time — in memory, at least — to the dear dead days beyond recall when she and her husband first visited the green and lovely valley.



Then Mrs. Kitchen turned philosophical and expressed the thought that while some people "live too much in the past it is, nevertheless, worthwhile to escape the

chaos of the world today by slipping into the past for a while — to go back to our beginnings for meditation and peace." Then, recalling the heart interest she has in that delightful area where every prospect pleases, Mrs. Kitchen wrote that "To me, Blue Sulphur Springs is not the huge hotel, nor the gay throngs who frequented it, but a place where a family — mine — found a home after a long journey of several hundred miles, and where they are now lying peacefully asleep in this quiet place in this flared-out restful valley."

Indeed, Mrs. Kitchen's family has ancestral roots running far back in those blue hills about Blue Sulphur Springs. Both she and her husband are descended from James Patterson and his devoted wife, Elizabeth, through their daughter who married John Kitchen on January 10, 1880, in a frontier fort near Lewisburg, W. Va., of our present day. Thither they had scurried because of an Indian raid. While refugees in that fort to escape the threatened savage enormities, this couple was married by Elder John Alderson, who was to plant the Old Greenbrier Church at Alderson only six weeks after Yorktown, or on November 24, 1781.

For some reason the old divine did not record the marriage on the pages of the Greenbrier County Court books but instead in his own ministerial record book which today resides in the archives of the Baptist Historical Society.

James Patterson was given title to the land where at Blue Sulphur Springs by virtue of a certificate of right of settlement; part of a Land Office Treasury Warrant, and the consideration of one spring, or rather the land around it. That was the "old Spring," you know.

That boundary of land comprised 490 rolling acres, land as fair as e'er the sun shone on! Date of the acquisition of his holding was March 17, 1789 — when George Washington was new on his new job as the first President of United States. Dear me, what an interesting thing local history really is! A rich and rare background is that of the Kitchens of Ashland down there in "The Dark and Bloody Ground" — as Kentucky has long since been known in the annals of the nation.

It was many and many a year ago that we provided our own entertainment here in our mountain homes. Here in the land of the blue sky and the true heart we even made our own confections when we got a **sweet tooth**. Particularly am I thinking of how we grew popcorn and raised cane in the mild form of that phrase. After popcorn was harvested it was never shelled until we were ready to use it. One way we readied it for use was to pull back the shuck on the ear but didn't break off the shuck at the butt of the ear. Then a half-dozen of the ears would be tied together with twine around the shucks and hung up to dry. When the corn was dry it was ready for use.

During this time we had turned the juice of the sweet cane into sorghum. Some people called it molasses. However, as a rose by any other name is just as sweet, so is the cane product. Call it sorghum or cane, it mattered not. It was and still is as good as anything manufactured by the hand and skill of mortal man. After the sorghum had been duly poured into stone jugs it was placed away to be eaten when the snows of winter came. Let come a cold winter night out our way there was always heard the welcome suggestion: **Let's make some popcorn balls and taffy!**

At our place there was such unanimous agreement on that suggestion that one might think the millennium had arrived. First, the big iron skillet was brought out, top and all. It was greased with butter. One of the boys would fix the fire in the open fireplace just right. While this was being done the popcorn was being shelled off the cobs by still another boy. I can

people had regular popcorn poppers. When the ripe, dry grains had popped just right each one looked like the **fleur-de-lis** of France. After a couple of gallons of corn had been popped there followed the rolling of the popped corn into balls. Molasses was poured on the popped corn as the balls of this delicious confection were being rolled by hands that were neither white nor small—but beautiful hands they were to us! Long ago those hands were folded in eternal rest on the breast of the best friend we ever had—God rest her soul! Never did cracker-jacks of commercial manufacture taste as good as the homespun popcorn balls with good, sweet mountain molasses holding the grains together!

Did you ever eat what I am talking about? If you haven't you have missed a whole heap of real living, my friend. Those of us of old time cherish sweet memories of long winter evenings spent around the home hearth stone doing just such things as I've described here. Gone, all gone, those dear, familiar faces upon whose ruddy young cheeks that blazing fire shone on such nights! What wouldn't you give to turn back the pages in the Book of Time and let the moon stand still in the Valley of Ajalon for a while as it did when Joshua worked over the enemies of Israel (Joshua 10:12) while you made popcorn balls for an entire evening? I'd love it, wouldn't you?

You could make popcorn balls, with molasses for **stickum** on them around the fireplace but you had to go into the kitchen to make molasses taffy. I realize that not one in a thousand of my readers will have even the faintest notion of what I mean by molasses taffy. Even in my mind the recipe for making this wonderful home-made candy is a little dim. However, I recall we put butter with the molasses and stirred the two ingredients together and let that mixture come to what was almost a boil on the stone in a pan. Flour was dusted in the pan at one juncture. I just forget which. After a little the molten mass was then taken out and stretched. We called it "**pulling**" the taffy. It was tawny in color and creamy in consistency but out of this world in taste. After the taffy had been "**pulled**" it was laid out in strips or sticks and allowed to cool a little. We didn't let it cool long on account of we wanted to start to eating it. We weren't bothered with store-bought taffy.

Miss Irma Patton 'Teacher Of Year'

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS — Jan. 24 (RNS)—Miss Irma Patton of White Sulphur Springs and Covington, Va., has been selected "Teacher of the Year" at White Sulphur Springs and has been submitted by the White Sulphur Women's Club as their nominee in the contest being conducted by the West Virginia Federation of Woman's Clubs.

She attended Marshall College in Huntington and received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1941. While attending Marshall she became a member of Kappa Delta Pi, an honorary education sorority. She received her Masters Degree from Marshall College in 1954.

Miss Patton's early teaching experience was in Monroe County. For the past nine years she has taught at the elementary school here.

Besides her teaching duties, Miss Patton is an active member of the West Virginia Education Assn. and a life member of National Education Assn. She is a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, an honorary teachers sorority and a past member of the Board of Directors and the State Class Room Teachers Assn. Miss Patton's main hobby is travel. She has toured most of the United States. Reading is her second hobby. She en-



MISS IRMA PATTON

Activities Of Churches--Schools

Miss Hoyt Describes Teaching Of The Bible

LEWISBURG, June 22 (RNS)

— A summary or the yearly report on teaching the Bible in public schools has been prepared by Miss Carlisle Hoyt, Bible Instructor for White Sulphur Springs and Lewisburg.

Miss Hoyt says the overall purpose of the program is to lay before the children and youth of our towns and communities the value of the Bible in their lives.

The specific purposes, she says, are to teach the children the doctrine of God; to teach them of Christ's life; to help them know the Bible, to help them know ways of communing with and serving God, and to help them see that the highest character and all good actions are from God.

All the courses for the schools are based on the Bible with a different curriculum for each grade level. Some of the courses taught last year included Children of the Bible, Customs of Palestine, God Begins a Nation, The Life of Jesus, God Forms a Nation, Acts of the Apostles, and A Nation Under God.

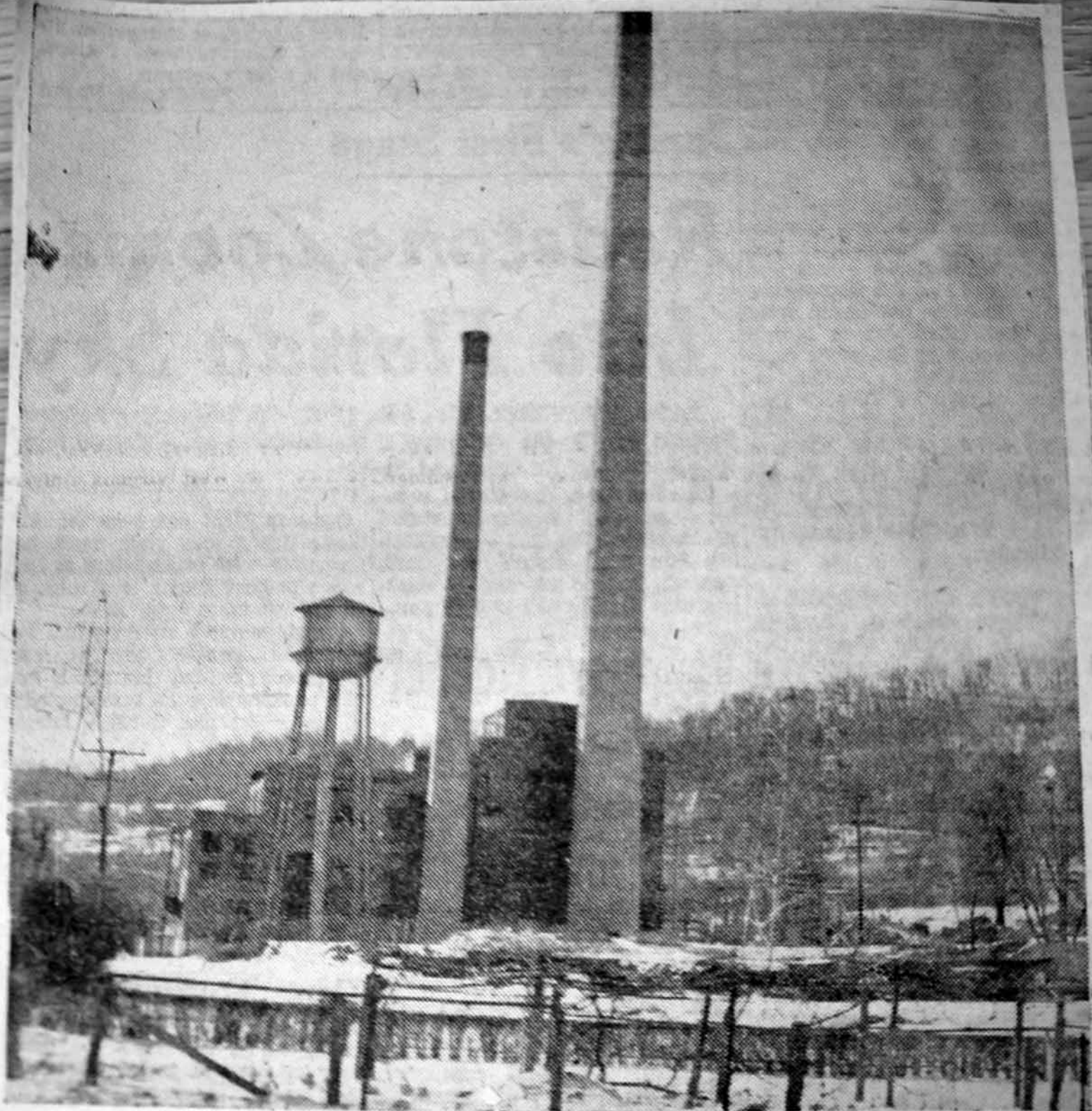
Miss Hoyt taught classes in six schools in the area, five days a week.

Sulphur, High, Bethune, Bolling High, Lewisburg, Maxwellton, and Bolling Grade. There were a total of 28 classes in the schools, with 708 children in the classes.

Teaching aids used for the classes included maps, pictures, slides, Bibles, notebooks, tracts, and handicraft materials.

Class procedure usually included telling a story, discussion, using Bibles, showing pictures and maps, and singing or learning hymns.

Children enrolled in the courses sent clothing to a Japanese Missionary, a Miss Godert, who taught the Bible courses prior to Miss Hoyt.



This Smokestack, In 1919, Was Highest In The World

Shown above is a concrete smoke stack, which was a part of the operation of Virginia Electric Power Company at Ronceverte. The VEPCO building was constructed in 1919 and at that time claimed the stack to be the highest in the world. The construction is over 300 feet high. It served the steam turbines which supplied

power to generate 17,000 kilowatts. During construction of the stack an unknown foreign-born workman was killed. He had only been there a short time and there were no records of his background. The workman was buried in Ronceverte Cemetery and a miniature of the stack was erected, as a marker. The

the head of his grave. This week, part of the VEPCO building and its grounds were leased by a North Carolina lumber company to use for storage. The building has become a landmark in the Greenbrier Valley as it was considered one of the strongest links in the power operation of the plant in its early days.

AUGUST 21, 1956

FIVE

Courthouse Lodger Victim Of Foul-Play

By BILL KEESEE

Death came swiftly to an unsuspecting, red-headed lodger in the Raleigh County Courthouse yesterday at 5:45 p.m.

The cause of death could not be determined last night. It will probably never be known since the body was destroyed before an autopsy was performed.

However, a reliable source said yesterday death was caused by a severe beating followed by dunking the victim's head into a can of green paint.

It seems the lodger, a 14-inch copperhead, was using the furnace

room of the courthouse for a place to sleep off a weekend hangover when he was disturbed by two jail-inmates, who were emptying trash.

One of the workers, who discovered the snake, said he had already emptied one box of trash about three-feet from the snake when his helper spotted the "varmint" on top of a trash can.

The monster was hiding behind a can of green paint which had been used to paint the jail. One of the workers struck at the lodger with a broom, hitting the snake's head and forcing it into the can

of paint.

Shortly afterwards, the once copper, now green-headed snake was removed from the can—stone dead. The body was disposed of before any official report concerning the death could be obtained. There was no inquest held.

Neither of the workers were able to explain the snake's presence or how it reached the top of the four-foot barrel.

The only explanation given was that the snake must have been in another trash container and dumped into the one in the furnace room.

Kiwanis Club Kids' Day On Sept. 22

M. L. Football Planned

Map Error Takes Nicholas Acreage

By Mary Critchfield

RICHHOOD, Aug. 20 (RNS) — A cartographer's error of many years ago, may have cost the citizens of Nicholas County some 37,000 acres of land now shown by maps to belong to Greenbrier County.

There is a strong possibility that all of the North Bend area of Greenbrier County, including Summit Lake, in fact, actually is a part of, and legally belongs to Nicholas County.

Some 2,000 acres of this area forms part of the southern fringe of the Monongahela Forest, and the surface is, therefore, federal land. The residue, some 35,000 acres, is taxable, privately owned land.

The triangle of real estate involved, was brought to light by a book recently published by State Auditor Edgar B. Simms, "Making A State." That this land is currently thought to belong to Greenbrier County is apparently due to an error by a map-maker, never corrected. At any rate the basis of the claim that, it appears Nicholas County could properly support, is found in the summarization of the Acts of the Virginia Assembly, creating the county, with subsequent changes and amendments.

In 1918 Nicholas County was created from Greenbrier, Kanawha and Randolph (Act of Virginia Assembly, passed Jan. 30, 1818) beginning at the mouth of the Gauley river (east side) thence up the river a mile and a half to the mouth of Rockcamp of Bell Creek; thence to the mouth of Buffalo, on Elk River; (Dundon) thence up the west side of Elk river to Otter creek (Ivydale) and up said creek to the ridge between Little Kanawha and Elk rivers, including the inhabitants of Holly; thence to Miller's old improvement on Elk river; thence to the Spice bottoms at the Fork of Williams river; thence to the Forks of Cranberry; thence to the Sixteen Mile Tree on

Wilderness road, crossing the old state road on the dogwood ridge, to New river, and down said river to the beginning.

This book by Auditor Simms, is filled with authentic calls from the original acts creating Nicholas County, as well as other counties of the state, and is receiving wide circulation. The author makes some historical comment and inferences as to what might have been the original intent of the acts, but considering only the facts, comes up with this conclusion.

The "Sixteen Mile Tree" must have stood near the present corner of Nicholas and Greenbrier counties, which is 16 miles from Summersville. Notwithstanding the fact the act states the line runs "to the fork of Cranberry" current maps show the line slightly west of the fork. Hence, there is a "V" shaped section included in Greenbrier, whereas it should be in Nicholas.

Simms points out that inasmuch as there were such great variations in old maps of this area, and from the further fact that the lines were never surveyed and marked, it is unlikely that their exact location will ever be known. He advises that searchers should bear these changes in mind when investigating land records of this area.

The record discloses, apparently beyond dispute, that these approximate 37,000 acres, within the triangle in question, are and should become a part of Nicholas County, rather than be continued as a part of Greenbrier; that the error by a map-maker can be corrected.

Local attorneys advise that such a change would require a Supreme Court decision, as the Virginia Assembly made the original disposition, for the area of Nicholas County, which was approximately 1,800 square miles in its beginning. Subsequent changes have decreased the county area.



Greenb

Shown on the current map is the "V" triangle State Auditor Edgar Simms in his new book, "Making a State" says should be in Nicholas County, not in Greenbrier County, due to a map-maker's mistake in original Acts of the Virginia Assembly, setting the boundary.



Greenbrier Gains 37,000 Acres Of Land

Shown on the current W. Va. map is the "V" triangle, which State Auditor Edgar Simms, in his new book, "Making a State," says should be in Nicholas and not in Greenbrier County, due to a map-maker's mistake. Calls in original Acts of the Virginia Assembly, setting the bounds of

Nicholas County, say the line from the Sixteen Mile Tree should be straight to the Forks of Cranberry River, line A to C. Instead the line now runs from A to B or approximately six miles west of the point intended. Distance A to B is approximately 19 miles A to C approxi-

mately 20 miles. Distance B to C is approximately miles. Within the triangle v should belong to Nicholas C ty, is approximately 37,000 a The map says it is in G brier, but the Acts of the Vir Assembly, all indicate it intended to be in Nicholas.

Observance Set On Battle Near Old White

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

All roads will lead to White Sulphur Springs tomorrow afternoon where the Battle of Dry Creek, or Rocky Gap, is being commemorated. On the very grounds where the battle was fought on Aug. 26, 1863, the centennial of the battle will be observed.

This spot is a mile or two east of The Greenbrier. There the armies of Gen. W. W. Averell, Federal commander, and the Confederate force under Gen. Samuel Jones clashed in bloody conflict on that terrible Tuesday 100 years ago.



THE UNITS IN THE UNION

Army in that battle included such outfits as the First, Second, Third, and Eighth West Virginia Regiments. On the Confederate side were such organizations as eighth, 22nd, and 45th Virginia Regiments and numerous others.

Kinsmen and neighbors from Greenbrier County and that West Virginia area in general opposed each other with live ammunition. It was kill or be killed and every warrior in the fight was out to save his own hide, no matter who fought him.

By 9:30 that morning, Averell's advance was resisted and assistance was requested by Yankee Captain Koenig. A squadron of the Second West Virginia Mounted Infantry Regiment was sent on at a trot. Another squadron of the Eighth West Virginia Mounted In-

fantry was ordered forward.

Upon these the Confederate cannon opened up. Soon the Third West Virginia and Fourteenth Pennsylvania Regiments were hurled against the Confederates.

COL. GEORGE S. PATTON, grandfather of Gen. George S. (Blood-and-Guts) Patton of world War II fame, was contesting Averell's drive. The shortstop position in Patton's field was given to Maj. Robert Augustus (Cus) Bailey, commanding the 22nd Virginia Infantry, less its Company K. Major Bailey was ordered by Colonel Patton, commander of the brigade of which the 22nd Virginia was a part "to hold the position at all hazards, this being the center of the Confederate lines."

Bailey and his 500 men were throwing everything they could at the oncoming Yankees and those West Virginia Yankees were being killed like flies. Command of the 22nd Virginia devolved upon Bailey when Lt. Col. Barbee, regimental commander, was wounded in the struggle. Bailey's command was stationed in an open field without protection except as afforded by a low rail fence. The position of Bailey's command was exposed to grape, shell, canister, and heavy musket fire all during the fight.

On the first day of the battle, Aug. 25, losses were heavy in 22nd Virginia Regiment.

AFTER HOURS of fighting, Bailey's men were down to five cartridges each. At this juncture the Yankees charged and some of the men in the Confederate ranks who had expended all their ammunition broke ranks and ran to the rear. Soon these were rallied and the Yankees repulsed.

For 12 hours this 22nd Infantry Regiment was under fire but held its position, though sustaining numerous casualties.

At day break the second day the Averell army tried the 22nd Virginia again but were driven back in disorder and being repulsed along the entire line, retreated hastily from the field.

INCOMPLETE CASUALTY

reports of the Union forces engaged at Rocky Gap, Aug. 26-27, 1863, showed an aggregate of 218 men killed, wounded, and captured. Three officers and 23 enlisted men were killed. Officers killed included Capt. William L. Gardner and Lt. John A. Moreheart, both of the Eighth West Virginia Infantry (Mounted) Regiment. Major Patrick McNally, Second West Virginia Infantry was mortally wounded as was Capt. W. H. H. Parker of the Eighth.

Incomplete casualties in Patton's Brigade amounted to 162 killed, wounded, and missing. Of the 20 killed 18 were enlisted men. Lt. C. C. Crouch of the 26th Virginia was mortally wounded. Lt. J. G. Carr of 22nd Virginia fell. So did Lt. I. B. Stewart of 45th Virginia. Eleven officers in Patton's Brigade were wounded as were 118 men. Both the foregoing reports, Union and Confederate, do not include all the casualties in the affray. They ran into the hundreds.

"DR. BEARD of Greenbrier County, not in the service, was present as acting surgeon of the 26th Virginia Battalion and was most conspicuous for energy and efficiency," reported Colonel Patton. Patton had Lt. Col. A. C. Dunn under arrest but Dunn offered his services on the field. In the battle, Patton said Dunn "behaves in the most soldier-like and gallant manner, and at a critical moment encouraged his men by his voice and example."

AVERELL WAS DEFEATED

and retreated from Rocky Gap. In his battle report, Averell says, "I regret to report that Capt. Robert Pollock, 14th Pa. Cavalry, failed to make his appearance. . . was found asleep by the enemy. . . Capt. James K. Hittins, 2nd West Virginia Infantry, Mounted, was too much intoxicated to perform his duties properly. He will be brought before a general court-martial."

To Be Commemorated Sunday



Used as a Confederate hospital, the "Cannon Ball House" stood at the junction of Anthony's Creek, and the James River and Kanawha Turnpike. It was so named because a cannon ball struck one of the gables, making a hole that was never repaired.

This Civil War landmark, long since destroyed, is often confused with the Miller Store House which stood on the "Road to Callaghan's" (as a map in the official program of the Commemoration Services describes the location).

The original print belongs to Mrs. Archie Mooney of White Sulphur Springs.

Yesterday And Today—

Greenbrier Tragedy Will Be Reprinted

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

Of late inquiries have come about copies of a little work which I published in 1950. That booklet was "David S. Creigh, the Greenbrier Martyr, A Tragedy of the Civil War." Only 250 copies were printed and the edition was disposed of in a few days.

Clarence Bishop, Scarbro Presbyterian, had the booklet printed

after I wrote it. Recently a dealer in Boston wrote asking for all available copies. He came to the proverbial goat's house to get wool. The books were gone ten years ago.

A second edition, somewhat enlarged and illustrated, is being planned.

A few days ago Mrs. R. M. Phillips, 206 N. Court Street, Lewisburg, wrote "I'm looking for information about the book, David S. Creigh, the Greenbrier Martyr, A Tragedy of the Civil War." Do you have any of these books, or know where I can obtain any of them? My reason for such interest is that my grandfather, Thomas J. McCallister, lived on this farm and drove the team to Virginia and brought back the body of David S. Creigh, a son of Creigh on horseback as his only help or protection. Therefore, I am very interested in obtaining some of these books for myself and relatives."

GREENBRIER COUNTY is the seat of as many stories and happenings of history as any spot of similar size. The tragedy of David S. Creigh's death is one that is of interest after the passage

a century.

Briefly it was this. Creigh was an elder in the Old Stone Presbyterian Church at Lewisburg. He and his family lived in the house now occupied by the Boone ladies on the Davis-Stuart School road. The Civil War was raging and Lewisburg was overrun with Union forces.

One day Creigh came home and found a drunken Union soldier in his home rifling the family trunks and mistreating the women folks. Creigh scuffled with the soldier. In the melee he shot him with a Derringer pistol. He threw the body in an abandoned well on his farm and covered it. As the military was in command of the civil government, it was deemed wise to keep it secret until order would be restored in the area.

One of Creigh's slaves, named Caesar, leaked the news to the Union commander and Creigh was placed under military arrest and given a military commission trial and hanged.

They took him to Virginia and hanged him from the limb of a tree. There the body was buried and subsequently exhumed and brought back to the Old Stone Church graveyard and reburied. Creigh's funeral was the largest one that Greenbrier County has ever seen. His grave is graced with an imposing marker that recites the melancholy facts of the man's unjust fate.

IT WILL SOON BE 200 years since one of the worst massacres to occur in the territory now West Virginia took place at the site of present Lewisburg. It was on June 27, 1763, that Chief Cornstalk and some 65 other Shawnee Indians paid a call on the white settlement at Lewisburg.

were given hospitable treatment. They then fell upon the white pioneers and slaughtered more than 50 persons. All the men of the settlement but one were murdered. Less than four miles away another detachment of the Indians massacred the white settlers on Muddy Creek Mountain at the same time.

THERE WAS QUITE a stir at Big Levels, now Lewisburg, in 1774 when the 1,100-man army of Gen. Andrew Lewis met in rendezvous in September of that year. From there the army marched to Ft. Pleasant where the big Shawnee battle was fought Oct. 10, 1774. The Indians under Cornstalk were defeated.

All remained quiet in that area until May, 1778, when Indians appeared before Ft. Donnally, and demanded its surrender. They had come to avenge the murder of Cornstalk shortly after the battle of Ft. Pleasant. Lewisburg, then called Ft. Savannah, sent reinforcements to Ft. Donnally, ten miles away, and the Indian siege was lifted. The defense of Ft. Donnally was characterized by examples of bravery and heroism.

A LOT OF BLOOD was shed in Lewisburg in battles during the 1861-65 struggle. The Greenbrier resort at White Sulphur Springs is the subject of another saga. So is the story of Anthony, the Greenbrier Indian who befriended the whites. Nor must the story of the weird Shue murder case be omitted, the noted, true ghost appearance of the victim of Shue. And there's the one of the lynching of the two Negro men who had killed a man named Myles.

History is deep anywhere one goes in Greenbrier.



State's Spas Called One Of Most Valuable Natural Resources

By PHIL CONLEY

President, Education Foundation, Inc.

There are many medicinal springs in West Virginia. They constitute one of the state's most valuable natural resources.

White Sulphur Springs, 140 miles east of Charleston, is the greatest inland watering place on the North American continent. The acreage comprising this resort was patented by Nathan Carpenter in 1774. But prior to that time Indians, as well as white people, had bathed and drunk the medicinal waters found there. Many of this country's most noted people have visited White Sulphur, among them Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Webster, Calhoun, and Patrick Henry. General Robert E. Lee once had a cottage there, where he lived part of the summer. People from all over the world have visited this noted spa.

Berkeley Springs is about three miles from the Potomac River in Morgan County. This place was first known as Warm Springs, then Bath, and later the present name. Washington wrote in his Journal on March 18, 1747, that he had visited the "famed Warm Springs." These springs were in the large tract of land owned by Lord Fairfax who gave the property to the Colony of Virginia so that the waters might be free to the public. When West Virginia became a separate state, she came into possession of the springs. After the Revolution, Washington built a cottage there and his brother Lawrence spent nearly a year there on account of his health. The springs have a capacity of 2,000 gallons a minute, with a uniform temperature of 74 degrees. The state has a five-acre park which surrounds the springs. It also maintains a sanatorium there.

Pence Springs is located twelve

miles east of Hinton. The waters have curative properties for kidney, stomach, and liver disorders. Some years ago a commercial company began bottling the water and shipping it to distant markets. The old hotel was acquired by the state and is now a female penal institution.

Webster Springs was discovered by J. E. Hall before the Civil War. The town is the county seat of Webster County and is sixty-three miles southwest of Elkins on the Elk River. It is 2,000 feet above sea level and has long been known as a health resort.

Old Sweet Springs is in Monroe County. James Moss built the first house there in 1760. The first patent for the land was granted to William Lewis, brother of General Andrew Lewis for whom Lewisburg was named. The springs flow from the base of Potts Mountain. The water has a temperature of 72 to 76 degrees and is described as "of a tonic character, mildly cathartic and alterative, valuable in cases of debility and in many forms of dyspepsia and functional diseases of the stomach and bowels." At one time this place was visited by prominent people from this country and abroad. Some years ago, during the administration of Governor M. M. Neely, the state acquired the hotel and converted it into an old folks' home.

Salt Sulphur Springs is on Indian Creek in Monroe County, about fourteen miles from Fort Springs.

Red Sulphur Springs is also on Indian Creek in Monroe County, about twelve miles from Lowell.

Capon Springs is on the east side of Cacapon River in Hampshire County. The Indians called it "Kakapon-se-pe," meaning "a river of medicine waters."

Shannondale Springs is about five miles east of Charles Town in Jefferson County.

Green Sulphur Springs is in...

ING, JANUARY 24, 1963

Yesterday And Today—

Black Day In Greenbrier County History

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

In the latest queries concerning local history was a question about when the last lynching occurred in this area. It was over 31 years ago that an armed local mob took the law into its hands, resulting in death. Events leading to the tragedy were something like this.

There was a Negro dance at Leslie in Greenbrier County on Saturday night, Nov. 21, 1931. The participants carried on until the wee small hours of Sunday. Revelry got into high gear. A call came to Constable Joseph H. Myles, Meadow Bluff District peace officer, to come and quiet things down. There was some drinking going on.

Myles arrested a colored man named Miller and struck Tom Jackson in his efforts. The dance was going on in the home of a Smith family. Myles had Miller in custody and walked some distance away to put him under bond. Myles's car was parked on the highway.

At this juncture, Jackson and George Banks, a guitarist, appeared on the scene. Jackson had secured a .12 gauge automatic shotgun and opened fire on Constable Myles and Jack Brown, 28, pumping four shots into the two men. Myles, shot in the back, was killed instantly and Brown was mortally wounded.

CONSTABLE MYLES was buried on Monday afternoon, Nov. 23, and attendance at his funeral was estimated at 2,000. Myles was buried in Big Swell Cemetery. He had a wife and eight children, three sons and five daughters. He was also survived by four brothers and two sisters, all well known. Tenseness gripped the crowd and feeling ran high at the funeral.

Brown and Myles both resided at Quinwood, where Brown was a taxi driver. Brown was taken to a hospital at East Rainelle. He was wounded in the head and abdomen. On Monday night he died.

State Troopers J. Rowe and Ray McClure arrested Jackson and Banks and lodged them in the Greenbrier County Jail at Lewisburg. Jackson was charged with the fatal shooting. Banks was held as an accessory to the crime.

A SPECIAL GRAND JURY that met Nov. 27, indicted Tom Jackson and George Banks on charges of the fatal shooting of Myles and Brown at Leslie Nov. 22. Feeling against the two indicted men smoldered and seethed for almost three weeks and then broke out. Early on Thursday morning, Dec. 10, an armed mob, numbering between 50 and 60 from the Quinwood section got into cars and headed for Lewisburg. About 1:30 a.m. Jailer William Flint was forced to hand over the keys to the Greenbrier County Jail where the two Negroes were confined.

Removing the two terror-stricken men from their cells, the mob headed west on Route 60. When the Jesse Hutchinson farm was reached about a mile and a half west of the county seat, the Negroes were hanged from the lower cross bar of a utility pole. One was suspended from each of the cross arms and their feet reached within a good of the ground. After the two victims were hanged the mob opened fire on the two dangling bodies. Both were killed with shotgun pellets and

tol bullets.

SOON WORD of the lynching reached Greenbrier Sheriff John H. Bowling. With Prosecuting Attorney J. H. White and an undertaker, Bowling went to the scene, accompanied by State Police. They cut down the two bodies, dressed only in underclothing. Near the pole where the mob executed its victims were found numbers of empty shotgun shells and pistol cartridges. New ropes had been used to hang Banks and Johnson.

To shut off news of the lynching until the mob had cleared out, they had cut 19 telephone wires. Officers of Greenbrier County, along with Gov. William G. Conley, verbally deplored the lynching, characterizing it a public disgrace. An investigation of the lynching was launched by Prosecutor White. Twenty State Police were sent to Lewisburg to aid the investigation. Lt. Frank H. Gibson commanded the troopers.

THREE YOUTHS WERE arrested in a stalled car and held for investigation. They were brought to the Raleigh County Jail and held for the January grand jury's action. They had in their car a .12 gauge shotgun and several loaded shells but the gun barrel was said to have been clean. They told police they had been rabbit hunting near White Sulphur Springs.

Lynching claims were filed by heirs of the mob victims, through attorneys, and Greenbrier County had to pay \$10,000 as a penalty. West Virginia statutes provide that any county in which a lynching occurs shall forfeit \$5,000 to the heirs of each victim. Banks and Jackson were the 37th and 38th victims of mobs in West Virginia.



MORNING, APRIL 21, 1960

Yesterday And Today—

Greenbrier Presbytery Long On History

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

Some of the folks in Monroe County go in for history. The Presbytery of Greenbrier publishes a bulletin that carries items about its churches. Rev. John K. Fleming, able minister of Centerville Presbyterian Church at Greenville, has an article in the February, 1960 issue.



Says Fleming, an old Seminary mate: "The Centerville Church in Greenville, grew out of the early Presbyterian plantings in Greenbrier and Monroe counties, located in part of the ministerial field of the Rev. John McCue, pastor of the first three Presbyterian churches organized west of the Alleghany Mountains, Old Stone, Union, and Spring Creek, all established by Hanover Presbytery in 1783.

"The earliest Presbyterians in the Centerville community were members of the church in Union, the work of Indian Creek, or Centerville, continuing as a chapel of Union for approximately fifty years. So far as is known, the first sermon heard in this community was delivered in the home of George Walker on Indian Creek by Dr. John McElhenney, October 17, 1809.

"Dr. McElhenney was pastor of both Old Stone and the church at Union, and established a schedule of monthly services at Centerville. In 1834 Dr. McElhenney resigned from Union to devote his whole time to Old Stone Church, Lewisburg. For some years Centerville continued as a chapel under the ministry of Union's pastors. Rev. David

Preston, followed by Rev. Samuel R. Houston."

CONTINUING, "In 1828 five of the Union congregation were ordained Ruling Elders, and were to have special oversight of the Centerville Chapel. These were Robert Gwinn, William Hinchman, George Walker, William Shanklin, and Robert Shanklin. Greenbrier Presbytery decided to organize one or more churches out of Union, and appointed a committee composed of Rev. William S. Beard, Rev. Samuel R. Houston, and Elder Richard V. Shanklin.

"Mr. Beard died but the other two members organized Centerville Church on June 10, 1828, and Mount Pleasant Church later the same year. Ninety-four persons transferred membership from Union Presbyterian Church. These constituted Centerville's charter membership.

CENTERVILLE'S first pastor, Rev. Michael Henry Bittinger, came in 1855, retiring in 1902. He died in 1913. Under his leadership, a large chapel program was carried out, both in Sabbath schools and preaching services, these included Hans Creek, Rich Creek Valley, Peterstown, Red Sulphur Springs, River View, Wolf Creek, Lowell, Mouth of Greenbrier, and others. These points in 1872 totalled an average Sunday School attendance of 281.

Out of the work of Rev. Bittinger and that of the Centerville Church, four churches were organized, these being Hinton, Alderson, Kellar, and, in 1956, Red Sulphur Springs. Dr. W. P. Bittinger, M. D., of Summerlee in Fayette County is a grandson of Rev. M. H. Bittinger.

"AN OUTSTANDING contribution has been Centerville of sons for the Gospel Ministry. Three are serving today, Rev. W. Graham Wood, Jr., Pastor of Beverly Presbyterian Church, Shreveport, La.; and Rev. A. D. Ellison, Jr., Minister of Education in First Presbyterian Church, Charleston. Others were: J. B. Bittinger, son of Centerville's first pastor; Price H. Gwinn and his brother, Clyde Gwinn; and the late Rev. Thomas Cary Johnson, D. D., for years the Professor of Systematic Theology in Union Theological Seminary, Richmond.

"THE SANCTUARY, still in use, was erected in 1849. Its lumber was sawed with an old fashioned whipsaw. Through mission assistance and the Lord's Acre Program of financing, started in 1949, two buildings have been constructed. One was a \$12,500 brick veneer manse, erected in 1856, replacing the old manse, which burned. The other a \$20,000 Educational Building, provides class rooms and fellowship facilities. This should greatly strengthen the church's program and brighten its outlook."

Thus ended the reading of John K. Fleming's sketch of his church. Both he and I were taught by the aforesaid Dr. Johnson, who was a scholar, hailing from Fishhook Hill in Monroe County. He had been the protege of Dr. Robert L. Dabney who wrote our theology textbook, and was Stonewall Jackson's Chief-of-Staff!

This helps to account for some of us Presbyterians still being un-reconstructed Rebels! Ministers who write the history of the churches they serve ought to be awarded medals as big as skill-lets for their wise increase.

Aug 23/1963

Greenbrier Was Battlefield Century Ago

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

August, 1863, has a hot time in Greenbrier County in more ways than one. There was not a city in the south that was more Confederate than Lewisburg, the focal point of some military concentra-

tioned with a force. "YOU WILL ATTACK and capture, (Colonel Jackson) or drive him out of the county. In passing Pendleton County you will destroy the saltpetre and powder works therein situated." That order was issued to Averell. "The command will carry hard bread, sugar, and coffee. The country through which you will pass will be looked to for needed supplies of beef and forage," continued Averell's order, "and the law library of the Court of Appeals of Virginia will be taken (at Lewisburg) and brought to Beverly. Great care will be exercised by the officer placed in charge that the books are not lost or injured. Transportation will be pressed if necessary." That order of General Kelley was signed by Thayer Melvin, Assistant adjutant general and issued at Cumberland, Md., Aug. 12, 1863.



AVRELL WAS a restless and troublesome Federal commander — to the Confederates, at least. In a subsequent order, dated Aug. 14, 1863, General Kelley stated that "The law library at Lewisburg was purchased for the western part of the state, and of course rightfully belongs to the new State of West Virginia. Our judges need it very much."

There was a post script from that order that was issued from Kelley's headquarters at New Creek which said, "I suggest to take ten days' rations of hard bread, sugar, and coffee, and nothing else."

SO FAR, SO GOOD. But Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones, 44, and member of West Point Class of 1841, was going to have something to say about Averell's boxing up those books at Lewisburg. Jones was in command of the Confeder-

ate forces in the Department of Western Virginia. Jones was by birth and manner a gentleman and he had excellent training as a professional soldier. He was alert, dignified, firm-lipped, and had penetrating eyes, a contemporary said.

Colonel Jackson was attacked by Averell's command at Huntersville and compelled to fall back. Word reached Jones that Colonel Jackson was driven out of Pocahontas County and that he was at Gatewood's one Back Creek, on the road from Huntersville to Warm Springs.

The family of Gen. Robert E. Lee was seen at Warm Springs by General Jones. On Aug. 20 in his report to Lee, Jones said, "I saw your family at the 'Warm' yesterday. All are well as usual."

General Jones sent his dispatch of Aug. 21 from Sweet Springs in Monroe County. Averell was reported to "have a large train of wagons."

GENERAL KELLEY wanted his Union troops well supplied for the raid on Lewisburg to get those law books. When Averell was at Petersburg on Aug. 14, Kelley sent this message.

"I find that your commissary, Koenisberger, has not drawn any salt for your command. I have ordered plenty to be sent you this p.m.; also a lot of cavalry pants. I am now after the ordinance with a sharp stick for the ammunition. The nails will be sent as soon as they arrive. . . . It will be impossible for me to furnish you with horses. Take all the good cavalry horses you can find and give the proper vouchers."

EVERYTHING POINTED to the fact that there was something doing. Jones had been getting reports of his

Averell's boxing up
at Lewisburg. Jones
and of the Confeder-

EVERYTHING POINTED to the fact that there was something doing. Jones had been getting reports of his confederate scouts as to the movements of the enemy and was getting all set to handle matters when his army met the enemy head on.

Jones wired Confederate Secretary of War James A. Seddon that he was "greatly in need of the troops I have sent east. Please order General Jenkins' and Colonel Wharton's brigades and my three field batteries back to me. I need them as soon as I can possibly get them."

Secretary Seddon endorsed this request to President Jefferson Davis as follows: "Should the instructions asked for — the return of the troops sent General Lee — be given? I doubt the expediency of the recall." President Davis replied to Seddon: "It would be well to inform General Lee, who may provide in that or other ways for the contingent, if necessary."

MEANWHILE THE ARMY of Averell and that of Jones moved toward a clash. Averell had a column of horses four miles long. Averell's advance was disputed by forward units of Jones' command. By 9 a.m. on Aug. 25, the battle was on and the fur was flying.

The story of the battle tomorrow.



WOULD I
BE TODAY?

BRICKMAN

Yesterday And Today—

Greenbrier College Was Started In 1874

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

Sight of the Beckley College's new library building, now under construction, brings to mind some early ventures in higher education in this area far back in the past century.

At Charleston in 1874, there died aborning The Livingstone University of America. A number of prominent people agreed to form a corporation by that name. Purpose of The Livingstone University of America was "for thoroughly educating and graduating persons in the sciences of medicine, surgery, dentistry, law, theology, philosophy and literature."

Principal office or place of business of the aforesaid school was to be at Charleston.

In its application to Charles Hedrick, then the secretary of state of West Virginia, it was stated that the corporation was to operate "perpetually unless legally dissolved."

Incorporators had subscribed \$10,000. Of that amount, they had paid in the sum of \$1,000. Ultimate goal of the corporation was to increase the capital to \$200,000. Shares of stock in the university project were \$100 each.

FIVE DIFFERENT individuals subscribed to 20 shares each. They were D. Mayer, Charleston; L. M. Chapman, New Orleans; and J. H. Brown, John Buchanan and John C. Walworth, all of Philadelphia.

Application for charter was made by this quintet of men on

Oct. 19, 1874. Nothing came of the ambitious venture. Today Charleston's institution of higher learning is Morris Harvey College which seems to be an up and coming school.

In 1784, there was a sort of rash of founding schools in this state.

On Aug. 17, 1874, 25 residents of Lewisburg and vicinity applied to the West Virginia secretary of state for a charter for The Lewisburg Female Institute.

That quarter of a hundred Greenbrier county worthies agreed "to become a corporation by the name of The Lewisburg Female Institute for the purpose of establishing and conducting a female school of high grade, and to this end to acquire title to real estate not exceeding ten acres for the purpose aforesaid in or near the town of Lewisburg, which corporation shall keep its principal office or place of business at Lewisburg, in the county of Greenbrier, and is to expire on the first day of August in the year two thousand."

INCORPORATORS showed their faith in their dream by their works. They proceeded to subscribe the sum of \$5,050 to the capital, by sales of additional shares from time to time to "one hundred thousand dollars in all." The capital subscribed was by shares of \$50 each.

Here are the persons who laid it on the line to get the Lewisburg Female Institute started off: B. F. Harlow, 10 shares; Samuel Price, 10; John Echols, six; Johnson E. Bell, six; John Withrow, five; James N. Montgomery, five; A. C. Snyder, five; R. F. Dennis, five;

J. W. Mathews, five; S. H. Ausin Handley, five; John S. Austin, four; Harvey Handley, five; M. L. Lacy, two; Richard Thomas, one; A.P. Sydenstricker, two; John Lipps, one; Samuel S. Johnson, one; M. B. White, two; W. W. Moore, one.

All these gentlemen affixed their signatures to the application for the charter for the school. Long ago they passed to their reward but here and there in this area are some of the descendants of those Greenbrier leaders who opined that to be a grade "A" citizen of the nation a person had to have something north of the collar in addition to something south of the clavicle.

B. F. HARLOW, one of the two 10-share incorporators, was the founder of the Greenbrier Independent at Lewisburg, still published as a weekly. Emile J. Hodel, editor of the Beckley Post-Herald, is his great-grandson.

Money was scarce in Greenbrier county in 1874. That area had been devastated by the armies on the federal government in the Civil War of 1861-65. Greenbrier authorities issued paper currency for general circulation, which paper money now is collectors' items and hard to find. At hand is a paper bill, printed as follows: "Lewisburg, Va., Nov. 1, 1862. The County of Greenbrier will pay to the Bearer One Dollar, According to an Act of Assembly of Virginia, passed March 29, 1862. By order of the Court. John H. Pierson, Clerk." Today that rare Civil War item is worth more than a dollar in the current coin of the realm!

Jarretts Are Old Greenbrier Family

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

In the course of our journey into Rader Valley in Greenbrier County a few miles west of Lewisburg, we ran into Sam and Joe Jarrett. These brothers were mending a fence along the paved road near the site of old Ft. Donnally.

On their rolling lands of a few hundred acres were their lowing herds. They have 200 or more fat Hereford cattle which range in weight from a few hundred pounds up to three-year-old beef steers whose weight was lumped off, in horse-back opinion, at around 1,400 pounds.

The sight of those 200 white-faced cattle strung out and bunched up near the two Jarrett brothers made a scene that makes one want to raise cattle.

IN CHATTING WITH the brothers, Sam, Joe, mention was made of the Jarrett family being among the earliest settlers in Greenbrier County. And that is right.

James Jarrett was born at Keeny's Fort at the mouth of Mill Creek in Greenbrier County on April 25, 1815. The wife of James Jarrett was Elizabeth Hickman who was born on Big Sewell Mountain in Greenbrier County. She died in 1858, in the month of January.

These Jarretts were pioneers in the first country settled west of the Blue Ridge. On the day of our call, Sam and Joe spoke of Hickman Jarrett as being one of their progenitors. Hickman Jarrett was the grandson of James Jarrett and his wife, Elizabeth Hickman Jarrett. It was on June 25, 1851, that Hickman Jarrett was born in Blue Sulphur District. There he had an 800-acre farm of the finest grazing land.

HICKMAN JARRETT married Georgia (Morgan) Bustle at Sherman, Texas, on Oct. 5, 1877. On Feb. 25, 1879, their son, James H. Jarrett, was born. A daughter, Leake Jarrett, was born on Aug. 9, 1880. On Sept. 15, 1883, a third child was born to the couple.

The wife of Hickman Jarrett was the daughter of Jesse and Juliana J. (Kasey) Morgan, who lived in Bedford County, Va. Jesse Morgan, father of Mrs. Hickman Jarrett, was born May 5, 1795. Mrs. Hickman Jarrett, was born in Bedford County, Va., Dec. 29, 1852. When she married Hickman Jarrett in Texas she was a widow.



Samuel Jarrett, another early Greenbrier County resident was born in Blue Sulphur District, on Dec. 13, 1804. He was the son of James and Ruth Gwinn Jarrett and the grandson of James Elizabeth (Griffy) Jarrett of Pennsylvania.

This Jarrett family was among the first to come to Greenbrier County. They were two or three times driven off by Indians while trying to effect a settlement. They finally succeeded.

The Gwinn were also very early settlers in Greenbrier County. Samuel Gwinn was the father of Ruth Gwinn, who was the mother of Samuel Jarrett. The brothers and sisters of Samuel Jarrett were: Elizabeth Delilah, Ira, Joseph, Andrew, Jacob, Ruth, Rosanna, Eveline, Margaret, and Sidney. Delilah died in Indiana. Ira died in Greenbrier in 1851. Andrew died in Missouri. Jacob died in infancy. Ruth died in Lewisburg in 1853. Eveline died in Greenbrier in 1859.

DURING THE CIVIL WAR, Samuel Jarrett and his brother Joseph were arrested by the Yankees and held as political prisoners. That was in 1862. They were hustled off to Camp Chase, Ohio, where they languished six months. When they were paroled and returned to Greenbrier they were not molested anymore.

Samuel Jarrett never married. He was one of the wealthiest land owners in Greenbrier County. In one farm he had a

boundary of 871 acres. His home was in the Palestine section of Greenbrier County.

Samuel and Joseph Jarrett took no part in the Civil War. It was always figured that because they did not line up with the Confederacy, which was pretty standard procedure in Greenbrier county, they were reported falsely by enemy neighbors to federal authorities who took them in charge and sent them to Camp Chase.

WHILE WE TALKED with the modern-day Sam and Joe Jarrett, the subject of Indians kept coming up. This was the result of our picking up some flint chips along the highway in front of the site of old Ft. Donnally.

We were told by the Jarrett brothers that their plowshares turned up scattering artifacts each spring. They are mostly arrowheads, or "darts," as Sam called them. Next spring when the Jarretts turn their land it is planned to go there and follow the furrows made by their tractors and see if a few Indian relics can be found.

When Ft. Donnally was attacked the bow and arrow had long been discarded by the savages. They had the best firearms the English could supply the Indians and the English government, through its traders on the frontier, saw to that. Probably Lord Dunsmore has secretly supplied the guns that were used in the attack on Ft. Donnally over 188 years ago.

More It Ages, The Greater The Kick

